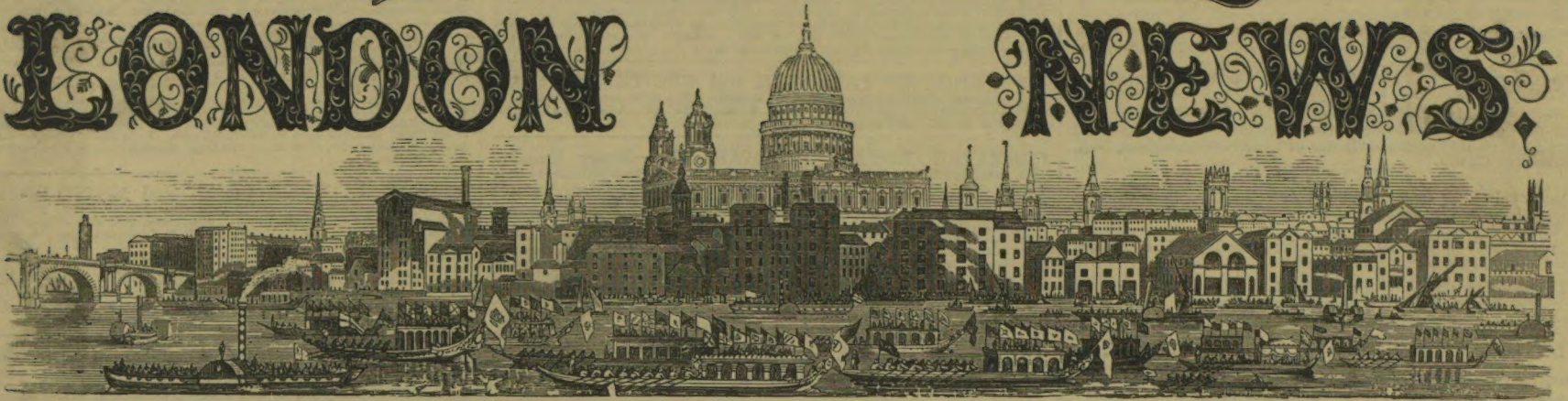


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

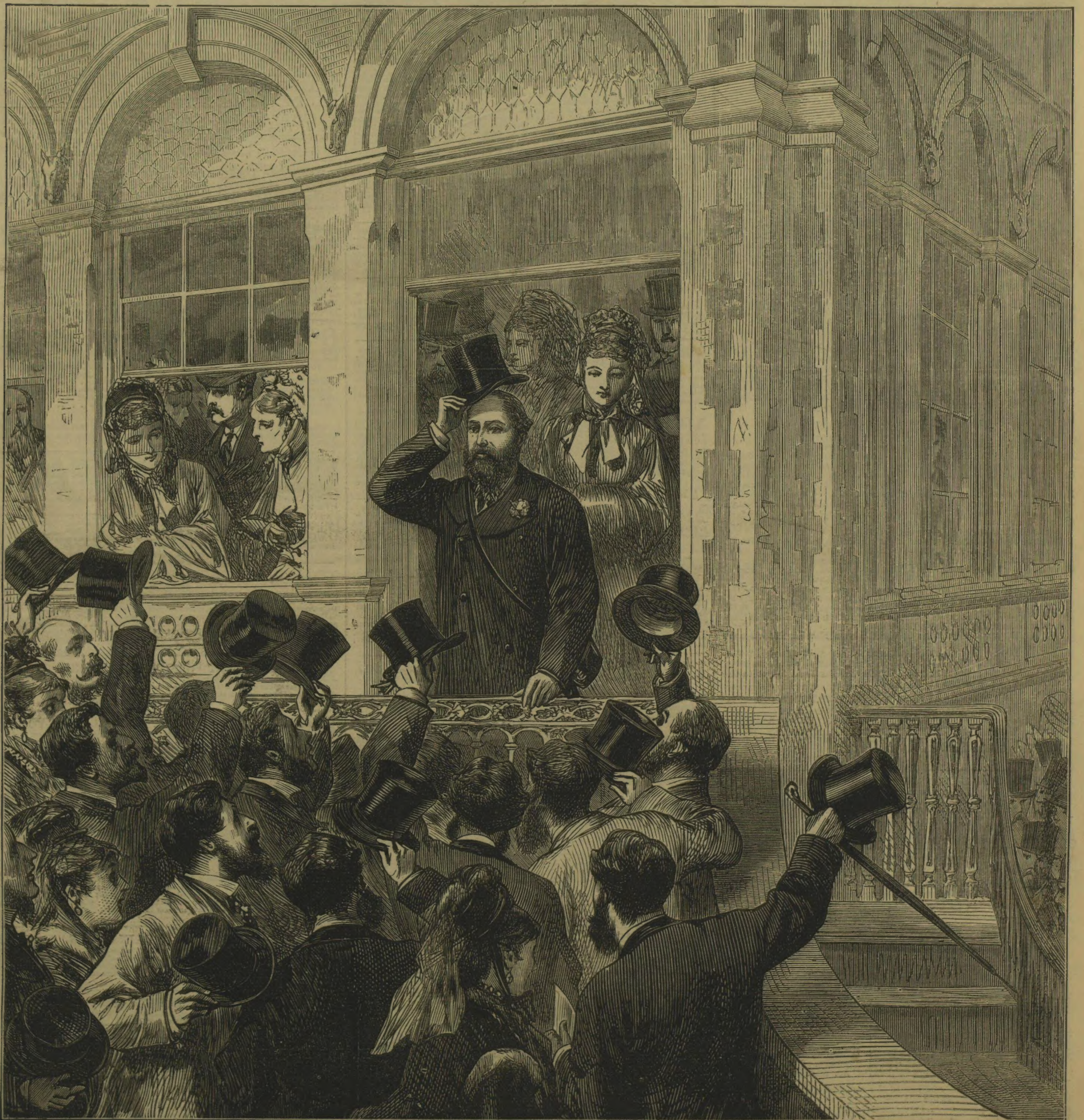


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1752.—VOL. LXII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1873.

WITH
EXTRA SUPPLEMENT } SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.



GRAND NATIONAL HUNT AND BRISTOL RACES: ARRIVAL OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AT THE GRAND STAND.

BIRTHS.

On the 24th inst., at 50, Clissold-road, Stoke Newington, London, the wife of Francis Arthur Suttaby, of a son.

On the 15th inst., at The Old Rectory, Grappenhall, Cheshire, the wife of Samuel Booker, of a daughter.

On the 20th inst., at 5, Huntington-place, Tynemouth, the wife of H. Clayton Manisty, Esq., of a daughter.

On Sunday, the 23rd inst., at Gravelly Lodge, Three Mile-Cross, Berks, the wife of Walter Wren, of Gravelly Lodge, and 3, Powis-square, London, W., of a daughter.

On the 21st inst., at 10, Rich-terrace, South Kensington, the wife of Samuel Carter, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At St. George's, Hanover-square, Harry Vaughan Davis, Esq., Royal Engineers, to Annie Clementina, daughter of Charles Whittingham, Esq., late Madras Civil Service.

DEATHS.

On the 19th inst., at Florence, Robert de Selby, Esq., formerly Lieutenant in the Pontifical Army, eldest son of the late John Thomas de Selby, Esq. R.I.P.

On the 9th inst., at Palermo, Sicily, John S. Blake, Esq., of Boston, U.S., and Palermo, aged 65.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 5.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30.
Fifth Sunday in Lent.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Prebendary W. J. Irons, B.D., Rector of St. Mary Woolnoth; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Gregory, M.A.; 7 p.m., the Lord Bishop of Carlisle.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A.; 8 p.m., the Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Stanley.
St. James's, noon, the Lord Bishop of Carlisle.
Whitehall, 11 a.m., the Very Rev. Dr. Cowie, Dean of Manchester; 3 p.m., the Rev. Canon H. P. Liddon, D.D.
Savoy, 11.30 a.m., [the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons; 7 p.m., the Rev. Temple West, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary Magdalene, Paddington].
Lambeth Palace, 5.30 p.m., the Rev. Canon Miller, D.D., Vicar of Greenwich.
Temple Church, 11 a.m., probably the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 3 p.m., the Rev. Alfred Ainger, M.A., Reader at the Temple.
French Anglican Church of St. John ("La Savoy"), Bloomsbury-street, services in French, 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., by the Rev. F. W. B. Bouverie, incumbent.

MONDAY, MARCH 31.
London Institution, 4 p.m. (Mr. Thelton Dyer on Fungoid Organisms).
National Health Society, 4.30 p.m. (Miss Chessar on Physiology and Hygiene).
Institute of Actuaries, 7 p.m.
Medical Society, 8 p.m.
Chemical Society, anniversary, 8 p.m.
St. James's Hall, 2 p.m., last London Ballad Concert; 8 p.m., Monday Popular Concert.
Welsh Choral Union (at Hanover-square), 8 p.m.
Royal United Service Institution, 8.30 p.m. (Lieutenant English on the Monocle System of Mounting).
Royal Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. B. Waring on the Laying out of Cities).
Nottingham Spring Meeting (and next day).

TUESDAY, APRIL 1.
Drawingroom to be held by the Queen at Buckingham Palace, 3.
Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, 2 p.m.
Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Rutherford on the Forces and Motions of the Body).
Society for Biblical Archaeology, 8 p.m. (Dr. H. Fox Talbot on the Religious Belief of the Assyrians; papers by the Rev. A. H. Sayce and the Rev. E. H. Cooper).
Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m. (Discussion on the Mont Cenis Tunnel; Mr. J. Head on Steam Locomotion on Common Roads).
Pathological Society, 8 p.m.
Royal Colonial Institute, at the Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. H. E. Watts on the three New Rules of the Washington Treaty).
Zoological Society, 8.30 p.m. (Dr. J. S. Bowerbank on the Brain of the Pedicularis capitata; Dr. J. E. Gray on Turtles; Dr. Günther on Flying Squirrels).
Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, 8 p.m. ("The Messiah").
Royal United Service Institution, 8 p.m. (Lieutenant J. F. Manrice on the Ordinary Work of Soldiers in Peace-time, and Warlike Efficiency).

Covent-Garden Theatre reopened with Italian Opera.
Anthropological Institute, 8 p.m. (Professor Busk, the president, and Dr. Barnard Davis on Peruvian Skulls; Dr. R. King on the Natives of Vancouver Island; Mr. F. M. Reade on a Skull from Birka, Southport).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2.

Royal Agricultural Society, noon.
Royal Horticultural Society, special general meeting, 3 p.m.
Royal College of Physicians, 5 p.m. (Lumleian Lecture, Dr. Barnes).
Royal Microscopical Society, 8 p.m.
Obstetrical Society, 8 p.m.
Pharmaceutical Society, 8 p.m.
Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, 8 p.m. ("The Creation").
London Institution, 7 p.m.
St. James's Hall, 8 p.m. (Philharmonic Society's Concert).
Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Captain Douglas Galton on the Economy of Fuel for Domestic Purposes).
Sacred Harmonic Society, 7.30 p.m. (Herr Ernst Pauer on the History of the Organ).
Beethoven Rooms, 3 p.m. (Mr. and Mrs. R. Blagrove's Recital).
Great Priory of Knight Templars at Willis's Rooms to install the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the United Orders of the Temple and the Hospital.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3.

Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Mr. Vernon-Harcourt on the Chemistry of Coal and its Products).
Royal Society Club, 6 p.m.
Institution of Naval Architects, annual meetings, noon and 7 p.m.
Linnean Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. F. Day on New Indian Fishes, the Rev. M. J. Berkeley and Mr. C. E. Broom on the Fungi of Ceylon).
Royal Society, 8.30 p.m.
Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m.
Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, 8 p.m.
Chemical Society, 8 p.m. (Dr. H. Sprengel on a Way of Determining the Specific Gravity of Liquids; papers by Drs. Wright, Gladstone, and Armstrong).

FRIDAY, APRIL 4.

Cambridge Term ends.
Moon's first quarter, 6.33 p.m.
Royal College of Physicians, 5 p.m. (Lumleian Lecture, Dr. Barnes).
Royal United Service Institution, 8 p.m. (Captain H. Toyne on the Meteorology, Temperature, and Currents of a Part of the Atlantic Ocean).
Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society, 8.30 p.m.
Philological Society, 8 p.m. (Dr. W. Bleek on Grimm's Law in South African Languages).
Paleontological Society, annual meeting, 5 p.m.
Geologists' Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. G. C. Cooper on the Diamond-Fields of South Africa; Mr. J. W. Wetherell on Margate Chalk Fossils).
Institution of Naval Architects, noon and 7 p.m.
Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution, annual meeting, 2.30 p.m. (the Lord Mayor in the chair).

SATURDAY, APRIL 5.

Oxford Lent Term ends.
Institution of Naval Architects, noon.
St. James's Hall, 3 p.m., Last Saturday Popular Concert.
Crystal Palace Winter Concert.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 5.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 11	3 23	3 32	4 11	4 30	4 47	5 5
5 5	5 23	5 45	6 7	6 29	6 53	7 19
7 50						

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 23' 6" N.; long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF										WIND.	
	Barometer Corrected	Temperature of the Air	Dew Point	Relative Humidity	Amount of Cloud	Minimum, read at 10 a.m.	Maximum, read at 10 p.m.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.	Exan in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.	General Direction.		
March	Inches.									Miles.	In.	
10	29.57	33.6	33.2	32.10	36.1	42.4	NNE.	531	000			
20	29.960	30.7	31.8	76.9	30.7	44.5	NNE. N.	410	045			
21	29.638	31.1	33.1	90.9	34.3	40.2	NNE. E.	236	045			
22	29.030	40.3	22.0	75.3	33.6	43.7	NE. ENE.	413	132			
23	29.035	42.7	40.7	73.	35.9	43.7	ENE. E.	124	000			
24	30.638	46.0	41.5	85.0	32.0	59.5	ENE.	130	000			
25	30.123	46.0	30.9	73.	0	34.8	NE. ENE.	305	000			

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.675	29.974	29.912	29.945	29.974	30.044	30.143
Temperature of Air	39.3	41.1	31.3	42.3	43.5	43.4	43.4
Temperature of Evaporation	36.7	37.2	34.9	39.7	41.9	44.5	44.6
Direction of Wind	NNE.	NNE.	NNE.	ENE.	ENE.	NNE.	ENE.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—Mr. and Mrs. ROUSSY.—These eminent Artists will appear in the Characters of KING LEAR and CORDILIA, for the first time in London, on SATURDAY, MARCH 29, and MONDAY, MARCH 31, Mr. F. B. CHATTERTON'S BENEFIT, Theatre Royal, Drury-lane.

MR. F. B. CHATTERTON begs to announce to those of his Patrons who have been unable to secure seats for his BENEFIT on SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 29, that Mr. and Mrs. ROUSSY have kindly consented to repeat their great impersonations of KING LEAR and CORDILIA on MONDAY EVENING, the 31st inst., when all Tickets issued for that night will be available. Box-office open from Ten till Five Daily.—THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

MR. EDMUND FALCONER will RECITE his popular Ballad of ANNE HATHAWAY; or, Shakespeare's Wooling, at a Quarter to Eight on SATURDAY and MONDAY NIGHTS.—Mr. F. B. CHATTERTON'S ANNUAL BENEFIT, THEAT. E ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening at Seven, THE MANAGER IN LOVE; at Eight, THE WICKED WORLD, by W. S. Gilbert. After which a New Comedietta, written for Miss Robertson and Mr. Kendal, by A. Meadow, entitled HIS OWN ENEMY; concluding with OUR MARY ANNE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—LAST NIGHTS of CHARLES I. Every Evening, at 8.15, CHARLES I.—Charles I., Mr. Henry Irving; Oliver Cromwell, Mr. George Belmore, Mr. H. Forrester, Mr. E. F. Edgar, Mr. R. Markby; Miss G. Pauncefort, and Queen Henrietta Maria, Miss Isabel Bateman. To commence at 7.15 with SHOULD THIS MEET THE EYE.—Mr. F. W. Irish; concluding with THE LOTTERY TICKET.—Mr. F. W. Irish, Mrs. Egan. Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Bateman.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—CHARLES I.—Morning Performance.—The Seventh and positively the Final Day Representation of the greatly-admired play of "Charles I." will take place on SATURDAY, APRIL 5. Seats can now be secured at the Box-office and at all the Libraries. Doors open at 2; commence at 2.30.

OPERA COMIQUE, Strand.—At Seven, THE LADIES' BATTLE—Miss Eleanor Buffon; at 8.30, THE BOHEMIANS, New Grand Romantic Opera Bouffe, in three acts and four tableaux; Music by Offenbach; English Adaptation by H. B. Farnie. Private Boxes and Stalls at all the Libraries and Box-offices. Prices, 1s. to 3gs. No fees for booking.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate. Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Douglas.—Great success of the production of the great Drury-Lane Drama REBECCA. Every Evening, at Seven o'clock, supported by Drury-Lane Artists, Drury-Lane Effects, Costumes, and Appointments. Scenery by Mr. Richard Douglas. Conclude with THOMPSON'S VISIT.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Moore and Burgess.—Eighteenth Consecutive Year at this Hall, in one continuous and unbroken season, of the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, universally acknowledged to be the most successful Entertainment in the World. A season of such remarkable duration, and one attended with such unvarying success throughout the entire term, is altogether without parallel in the history of the world's amusements.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, EVERY NIGHT, at Eight; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, at Three and Eight, all the year round. Eighth consecutive year at this Hall, in one uninterrupted season. The Company comprises Forty Performers, all of known eminence. It has long been a generally acknowledged fact that the Choir of Vocalists pertaining to Messrs. Moore and Burgess's Company is one of the finest and best cultivated in existence. The compositions presented to public notice from time to time are all written and composed expressly for Messrs. Moore and Burgess by Authors and Composers of the highest degree of eminence—including Mr. Charles Dunphie, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Mr. Henry S. Leigh, Mr. Frank Vitzelly, Mr. J. R. Thomas, Mr. Nish, Herr Meyer Lutz, and others.—Private Boxes (the most elegant and luxurious in London), 61 1s. 6d. and 42 1s. 6d.; Parterres, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; 2s. Gallery, 1s. Doors open for the Day Performance at 2.30; for the Evening, at Seven.

AN ENTIRELY NEW and INTERESTING PROGRAMME will be presented by the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS THIS WEEK. New and beautiful SONGS, BALLADS, PAIR-SONGS, and CHORUSES, written and composed by Mr. Charles Dunphie, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Mr. Frank Vitzelly, Mr. Henry Leigh, Mr. Frank Stainforth, Mr. A. Nish, and Herr Meyer Lutz.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT, HAPPY ARCADIA, ALL ABOARD, and VERY CATCHING.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight. Morning Representations every Thursday and Saturday, at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s.

HAMILTON'S NEW OVERLAND ROUTE TO INDIA. WESTBOURNE HALL, Bayswater.—Fashionable and delighted audience. The Gorgeous and Costly Scenery by Messrs. Tebbin. Figures and Animals by those eminent Artists, Absolom, Louis Haghe, and Esteloa. Shipping by Knell and Weedon. Grand Illuminated Day Representations, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at Three; every Evening at Eight.

THE "BLONDINETTE MELODISTS" at ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place, for Three Nights only—THURSDAY, APRIL 3; FRIDAY, APRIL 4; and SATURDAY, APRIL 5. Eleven Young Ladies, in their original and elegant MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT. Music by E. E. Van Noorden. Commence each Evening at Eight. Private Boxes, 61 1s.; Parterres, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Admission, 1s.—Tickets to be had at the principal Music Warehouses and Libraries, and at the Hall.

MONDAY MORNING.—THE LAST LONDON BALLAD CONCERT. ST. JAMES'S HALL, MONDAY NEXT, at Two o'clock. Artists—Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Emily Spiller, Miss Jenny Pratt, and Madame Patey; Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Northdon, Mr. Pryatt, and Mr. Santley. Pianoforte, Mr. Sydney Smith. Conductors, Mr. J. L. Hatton and Mr. Meyer Lutz. The Duet "All's Well" will be sung by Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Santley. Admission: Stalls, 6s.; Family Tickets (for four), 25s.; Balcony, 3s.; Area, 2s.; 2s. Gallery and Orchestra, 1s. Tickets to be had of Austin, St. James's Hall; Chappell and Co., New Bond-street; Keith, Frowse, and Co., Cheapside; Hays, Royal Exchange-buildings; and Boosey and Co., Holles-street.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL. Last Concert but One, on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, MARCH 31, when the programme will include Beethoven's quartet in C sharp minor (repeated by desire); Haydn's quartet in D major, op. 20, No. 4; Beethoven's sonata in F sharp major, op. 78, for piano alone; and Schubert's fantasia in C major, op. 159, for piano and violin. Executants—Miss Charles Hallé, Joachim, L. B. Straus, and Flauti. Vocalists, Mr. Edward Lloyd. Conductor, Sir Julius Benedict. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Programmes and Tickets at Chappell and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street; and at the Hall, 25, Piccadilly.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL CHORAL SOCIETY. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2.—Rossini's STABAT MATER and Mendelssohn's HYMN OF PRAISE, Madame Otto Alvalden, Miss Spiller, Madame Patey, Signor Bettini, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Agnelli. Band and Chorus of 120 Performers. Organist, Dr. Stainer; Conductor, Mr. Barnby. Doors open at Seven o'clock; Commence at Eight. Boxes, 25 3s., 42 10s., and 41 10s.; Stalls, 7s. 6d. and 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Tickets at Novello, Ewer, and Co.'s, 1, Berners-street, W., and 35, Poultry, E.C.; Mr. Austin's, St. James's Hall; the usual Agents; and at the Royal Albert Hall.

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SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor Sir Michael Costa.—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2.—THE FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL PASSION WEEK PERFORMANCE of the MESSIAH. Principal Vocalists—Miss Edith Wynne, Madame Patey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley. Band and Chorus, Seven Hundred Performers. Tickets, 5s.; Reserved Area (numbered in rows), 5s.; Gallery (numbered seats), 5s.; and Stalls, 10s. 6d., at 6, Exeter Hall.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Conductor, Mr. W. G. Cousins.—SECOND CONCERT, ST. JAMES'S HALL, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2. Eight o'clock. Brahms's Requiem (first time in this country); Mendelssohn's Walpurgis Night Violin Concerto, Viennese, Madame Norman-Neruda, Miss Sophie Ferrari, Miss Mary Crawford; Mr. Ed. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 7s.; Tickets, 5s. and 2s. 6d.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1873. OPENS ON EASTER MONDAY AND CLOSES OCT. 31.

SEASON TICKETS ONLY will ADMIT to the PRIVATE VIEWS of the PICTURE GALLERIES before the Opening.

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DORÉ'S GREAT PICTURE of "CHRIST LEAVING THE TETRARCHIA," with "Triumph of Christianity," "Christian Martyrs," "Francesca di Rimini," "Neophyte," "Andreas," &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of PICTURES, the Contributions of Artists of the Continental Schools, at the FRENCH GALLERY, 120, Pall-Mall, will OPEN on MONDAY, MARCH 31.

ELIJAH WALTON'S PAINTINGS EXHIBITION. Including "A Storm on the Sea" and "A Storm in the Desert," &c., and a number of new and important Drawings in the Bernese Oberland, NOW OPEN, at the Gallery, 4, Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, from Ten to Six. Admission (with Catalogue), 1s.

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Cornhill, London, Manufacturing Silversmiths have recently finished several New									
Patterns of SILVER TEA and COFFEE SERVICES of the most elegant design and									
highest finish. The following are very generally approved—									
The Beaded Pattern, with Engraved Shields.					The Oxford Pattern. Beautifully Engraved.				
Silver Coffeepot ..	..	..	£17 8 0		Silver Teapot ..	..	..	£16 5 0	
Silver Teapot ..	..	..	13 12 0		Silver Sugar Basin ..	..	..	8 10 0	
Silver Sugar Basin ..	..	..	8 0 0		Silver Cream Ewer ..	..	..	6 0 0	
Silver Cream Ewer ..	..	..	5 10 0		Silver Coffeepot ..	..	..	18 0 0	
				£44 10 0					£43 15 0
Silver Table and Presentation Plate, including Waiters, Ink-stands, Price Cups, Epergnes, and Flower-Stands, drawings and estimates of which will be forwarded on application.									

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AVIS.

Les personnes désireuses d'obtenir des clichés des gravures publiées dans le Journal THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, doivent s'adresser directement à l'Editeur, 198, Strand, Londres.

BEKANNTMACHUNG.

Alle die Galvanoplastische Abdrücke von Holtz-Schnitten in der ILLUSTRIRTEN LONDON NEWS publicirten zu beziehen wünschen, müssen sich direkt wenden an den Verleger der Zeitung, 198, Strand, London.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1873.

The most absorbing matter of conversation during the week has been the beneficent enterprise of Mr. Plimsoll, M.P. for Derby, to secure the lives of British seamen against the negligence, and we may even say rapacity, of that class of shipowners—we hope it is but a small one—which, in pursuit of individual gain, recognises no responsibility for the safety of the men by whom its members seek to achieve it. Last week we gave our readers a Portrait of this hon. gentleman, accompanied by a brief sketch of his career and by a deeply-interesting statement of his own, illustrative of the genuineness and disinterestedness of the motives which have impelled him to shape out for himself his present course of action. We need hardly apologise to our readers for recurring, in this place, to the work which he has undertaken. It is not by any means the first time that the columns of this Journal have been made available for setting forth the special claims of our seafaring population to further legislative protection than they now enjoy in following their dangerous calling. Year after year we have commented upon the salient points of the information contained in the *Wreck Chart and Register*, published by the Board of Trade, and have urged the duty of calling upon the Legislature to take the necessary steps for reducing to the least possible amount the number of those accidents at sea which are known to result from "preventible causes." We are happy, therefore, in being able to congratulate Mr. Plimsoll on the rapid and successful concentration of public feeling in regard to this matter which his exertions and self-sacrifice have brought about. The meeting held at Exeter Hall last Saturday, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, indicated, though perhaps but imperfectly, the depth of feeling and the determination of purpose which the hon. member's mode of handling the subject has stirred in the mind of the British public.

We need say nothing here in expression of our entire sympathy with Mr. Plimsoll in the general object he has in view. The commonest humanity must approve it. Economy itself, which should have regard to the saving of life and property from wanton exposure to destruction, cannot but commend it. Patriotism, which concerns itself as well with the morality and honour of the country as with its defence from external aggression, must give to it an impressive sanction. None have a right to prosecute their commercial or mercantile dealings at any risk to the lives of their agents which due care and proper precautions on their own part might largely obviate. To send ships to sea which are in all important respects unseaworthy, whether from age or from bad repair, which are ill found, or defective in their equipments, which are undermanned, or which are overladen, is an act which is wholly unjustifiable even in isolated instances. When it becomes a practice, it is one which society is bound to put a stop to, even though it be necessary to do so by summary means. It has to be borne in mind that the loss of such ships and their crews at sea, lamentable as it is, does not comprehend the entire evil which the practice occasions. The surviving relatives of the seamen who are its victims—wives, parents, brothers, and sisters, orphans—have a strong claim upon Parliament to deal effectually with so disgraceful and destructive a cause of disaster. The death cries of the drowning, and the wails of bereaved kindred, enforce with tragic power the appeal thus made. Mr. Plimsoll has called upon the Legislature to step in between the wronged and their oppressors, that it may rescue the former from their helpless exposure, and bind over the latter to a wholesome regard for the sacredness of human life. He has, we think, justly anticipated the will which his countrymen would have authoritatively expressed on the supposition that they had been accurately and fully informed of all the circumstances of the case. He has done more. He has taken care to supply them with the knowledge requisite for the formation of a just purpose in the matter. A splendid success appears to be now within his reach. He has still, it is true, formidable obstacles with which to grapple; but he has surmounted the first and greatest obstacle of all—namely, the inertness of public opinion in reference to a subject to which it had not previously given its attention.

Let us at once disclaim, as no one has done more earnestly than Mr. Plimsoll himself, any intention of involving in one indiscriminate charge the whole body of shipowners in this country, or even any very considerable proportion of them. It will be found, we apprehend, that the evil practices to which we have adverted are knowingly or systematically resorted to by

but a small minority of the class. All occupations are liable to culpable perversion by some who embark in them, and who make even the most sacred interests subservient to their pecuniary profit. We quite concur with Lord Shaftesbury in believing that "there are among that body some of the best men and some of the noblest hearts England can boast," and we share his confidence that "they are prepared to be themselves in the very fore front of this battle, and to declare that what is demanded is just and right, and that they will battle with all the energy and influence which they can command to obtain what Mr. Plimsoll seeks." Nor is it necessary for us to identify with the statements made by the hon. gentleman this or that shipowner who may feel himself to be aggrieved. It suffices that Mr. Plimsoll has at length got his Royal Commission of Inquiry, and we can hardly allow ourselves to doubt that the country will insist upon the fullest and most satisfactory investigation of the whole matter.

The hon. member for Derby, however, has resolved, if possible, to "take time by the forelock." Pending the inquiry and report of the Royal Commission, he seeks to pass through Parliament, during the present Session, a short temporary Act to give protection to our seamen, by preventing overladen and unseaworthy vessels being sent to sea. The first provision of that bill enacts that all ships, other than those already under survey by Lloyd's or by the Association in Liverpool, shall be surveyed before they leave their respective ports. The next provision enacts that there shall be a maximum load-line, below which no vessel shall be put into the water. The hon. member contends that such enactments as these need not wait the report of the Royal Commission. They are proper in themselves. They need no previous information to justify them. They are required to save life during the period which will be spent in the investigation of the subject in all its breadth. It will certainly demand great vigilance and unusual support to enable a private member to succeed in carrying through Parliament even so simple a measure as this, under the especial circumstances of the case. We are not without hope, however, that he will achieve the object he has in view. At any rate he has courageously embarked on a beneficent enterprise, and every Englishman who has his heart in the right place must cordially wish him "God speed."

THE COURT.

The Queen, with Princess Beatrice, continues at Windsor Castle. The Court will arrive at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday next, on which day her Majesty will hold a Drawing-room. The Court will be in mourning for the late Queen of Wurtemberg, and it is expected that all persons attending this Drawing-room will, according to custom, appear in slight mourning.

The Queen's dinner party on Wednesday week included Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Marchioness of Blandford, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Marquis of Bowmont. On the following day Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne left the castle for London. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein dined with her Majesty. On Saturday last the infant pianists, the Misses Agnes and Violet Molyneux, performed a selection of music on the pianoforte before the Queen and Princess Beatrice. Her Majesty entertained at dinner Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Roxburghe, Lord and Lady Elcho, Lady Susan Melville, the Bishop of Exeter, General Lord Strathnairn, Viscount Torrington, and Sir John Cowell. On Sunday the Queen, Prince and Princess Christian, and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service in the private chapel of the castle. The Bishop of Exeter officiated. Prince and Princess Christian had luncheon with her Majesty. On Monday the Queen held a Council, at which were present Earl Granville, Viscount Sydney, Viscount Halifax, and the Marquis of Hartington. Mr. E. H. Knatchbull-Hugessen and Mr. W. E. Baxter were introduced at the Council and sworn in members of the Privy Council, and took their seats at the board accordingly. Sir Arthur Helps was clerk of the Council. General Salazar was introduced to the presence of the Queen by Earl Granville, and presented his credentials as Minister for Ecuador; and the Hon. Lionel West was presented to her Majesty as her Majesty's Minister for Buenos Ayres. The Lord and Groom in Waiting were in attendance. Earl Granville had an audience of the Queen. The Bishop of Exeter left the castle. Her Majesty's dinner party included Prince and Princess Christian, the Duke of Cambridge, his Excellency the French Ambassador and Comtesse d'Harcourt, his Excellency the Italian Ambassador (Chevalier Cadorna), the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, the Duchess of Roxburghe, Viscount Torrington, and Colonel the Hon. D. C. F. De Ros. Her Majesty's private band played in the drawing-room after dinner before the Royal family, the visitors at the castle, and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting. The Queen received by telegraph the melancholy intelligence of the death of the German Ambassador (Count Bernstorff) on Wednesday.

Her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice, has taken her customary daily exercise in the Home and Windsor Great Parks.

The Countess of Caledon has succeeded the Duchess of Roxburghe as Lady in Waiting to the Queen. The Duchess of Roxburghe remains at the castle on a visit to her Majesty.

Her Majesty has contributed £250 to the testimonial to the late Mr. Maguire, M.P.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales returned to Marlborough House yesterday (Friday) week from visiting Lord Fitzhardinge at Berkeley Castle. On Saturday last his Royal Highness presided at a meeting of her Majesty's Commissioners for the Vienna Exhibition held at Marlborough House. On Sunday the Prince and Princess attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal St. James's. The Rev. the Sub-Dean, the Rev. J. V. Povah, the Hon. and Rev. G. T. O. Bridgeman, and the Bishop of Ely, officiated. On Monday the Prince attended the House of Lords. In the evening the Princess went to the Monday Popular Concert at St. James's Hall. On Tuesday the Prince hunted with her Majesty's staghounds near Slough. In the evening the Prince and Princess were present at the tableaux given at Mr. Freake's residence, Cromwell House. Their Royal Highnesses afterwards partook of supper with Mr. and Mrs. Freake.

On Wednesday the Prince and Princess visited the Duke of Cambridge at Gloucester House. The Prince attended a general meeting of the Royal Yacht Squadron at Willis's Rooms. Subsequently the Prince and Princess went to the London University at Burlington-gardens, where her Royal Highness distributed the prizes to the successful competitors at the Female School of Art. The Prince and Princess gave a dinner party at Marlborough House. The band of the 2nd Life Guards was in attendance, under the direction of Mr. W. Winterbottom. The Princess has paid frequent visits to the Duchess of Inverness at Kensington Palace. Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, has also taken her usual daily drives.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present at the morning performance at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday last.

Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne, with Prince Leopold, were present at the performance of Bach's "Passion Music," on Thursday week, in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. On the following day the Princess and the Marquis of Lorne dined with Viscount and Viscountess Halifax, at their residence in Belgrave-square.

Prince Arthur opened, at the Wellington Fall, Dover, on Wednesday, the second annual meeting of the Dover and Cinque Ports Poultry, Pigeon, and Cat Show, open to Kent and Sussex.

The Duke of Teck returned to town on Wednesday from Stuttgart, after paying a visit on his way home to the King and Queen of Holland.

Princess Amelia of Wurtemberg arrived at Dover on Wednesday from Calais by the mail-steamer Wave, and was met on disembarking by Prince Arthur, who accompanied her Royal Highness from the Admiralty Pier to the Lord Warden Hotel. The Princess afterwards left for London.

His Excellency Musurus Pacha and family have arrived at the Turkish Embassy in Bryanston-square from Constantinople.

We regret to state that Count Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, died on Wednesday. We shall give a Portrait of his Excellency next week.

The Duke of Sutherland and Lord Tarbat have returned to Stafford House, St. James's, from Egypt.

COAST BATTERY GUNS.

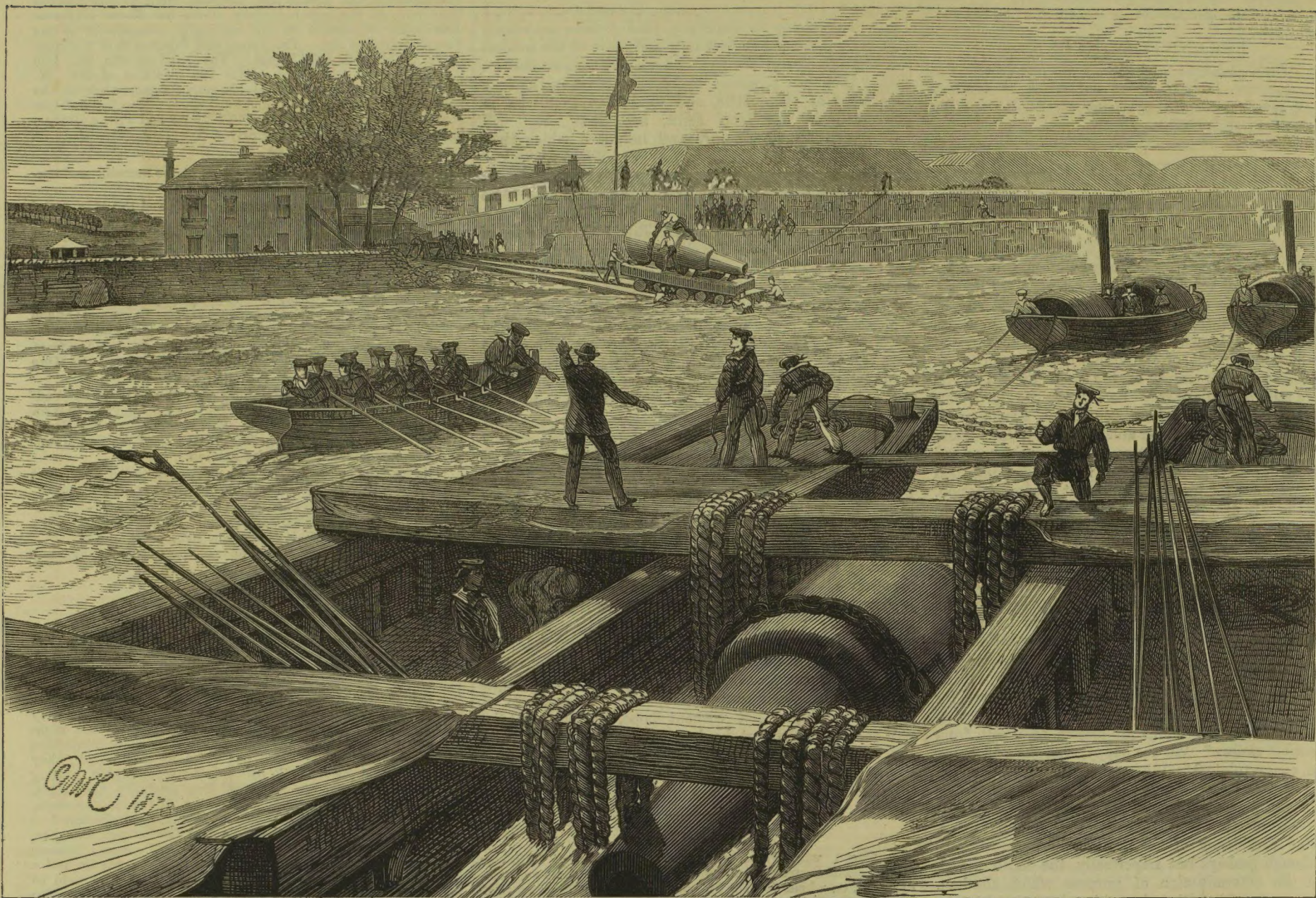
Our Illustration shows the method of conveying guns of the largest size to be placed in our coast defences. It was late in August or early in September last that the two guns which are the subject of our Engraving made the passage from Portsmouth to Puckpool Fort, Isle of Wight. They were each twenty-five tons in weight. The gun on the ways, which arrived a day or two before the other, had only been moved above high-water mark when the second gun arrived. The steam-launches took the second gun as near the shore as they could; they were then cast loose; and, by dint of rowing about, passing ropes, pulling, shouting, and moral force generally, the barges, with their load, were coaxed round in a line with the ways, and the guns were dropped. The crossing had to be timed so as to arrive on the top of the tide, and the barges, launches, and other boats had to get away while it still served, because the shore is shallow, and at low water there is nearly half a mile of sand bare in front of the fort. The poles were used to feel for the ways under water, in order to drop the guns square with it. These two 35-ton guns are the only big guns now in the fort; but they are not yet in position; they still rest side by side in the yard.

THE "BOTTLE-TREES" OF NORTH AUSTRALIA.

Dr. George Bennett, of Sydney, New South Wales, has sent us an account of that curious tree, the "bottle-tree" of Queensland, Northern Australia, accompanied by the drawing we have engraved. "On Nov. 10, 1871, when on a visit at Jimbour station, Darling Downs, the property of the Hon. Joshua P. Bell, Colonial Treasurer, I was invited," he says, "to visit a part of the run a few miles distant, where some very fine specimens of 'bottle-tree' were growing. On the following morning I set out with Mr. Bell and Mr. E. A. Gaden to examine these trees. After passing over some of the fine sheep pastures on the station, we came upon a sandy soil, in which eucalypti and other gigantic myrtles flourished, as well as various kinds of acacias—the Brigelow, wattle, and bastard Myall—here accompanied by a character of Australian vegetation indicating a poor soil. It was among these that we observed the peculiar trees termed, from the singularity of their form, 'bottle-trees,' growing at various short distances one from the other. To approach each separately we had to pass through a scrub or thorny brake. On coming within sight of them their remarkable formation and variety of growth, with their great elevation and bulk, excited our admiration and amply repaid us for our trouble. These trees are of the order Sterculiaceæ; they are named *Delabechia rupestris* by the botanist, and bottle-tree by the colonists. The interior structure of the tree abounds in a mucilage resembling gum tragacanth. The trees we had an opportunity of observing were nine, varying in size from 35 ft. to 65 ft. in height, with huge branches at the summit. The foliage is composed of narrow, stalked, entire, and lanceolate leaves, four to seven inches in length. Others on the same tree and stem are digitated, the digitations varying from five to seven sessile leaflets of a form similar to the simple leaves. The flowers are in panicles, and insignificant in appearance; the bark is rugged, and there is no distinction of foliage to be observed either in young or old trees. The circumference of one of the trees, measured 7 ft. from the base, was from 12 ft. to 35 ft. Their peculiar shape and the fantastic style of their growth are well shown in the drawing (from my own sketches from nature), by Mr. W. C. Bennett, of the Survey Department of New South Wales. The trees grow very luxuriantly in a soil of sand, or sandy loam. These trees are often tapped by the stockmen and others, who procure from them a glutinous and refreshing beverage. The trees, when of large size, are scooped out, and form very excellent canoes. I have been informed that an excellent kind of jam has also been made from the sap."

Lord Romilly on Tuesday took an impressive leave of the Rolls Court, over which he has presided twenty-two years. Sir Richard Baggallay, the leader of the Court, assured his Lordship, on behalf of the Bar, that in closing his judicial career he would carry with him their respect and esteem.

Calling names would seem to be a slight peculiarity of Mr. James Steel, who began an unpleasant adventure by applying a few harsh epithets to a cabdriver, proceeded to fix some equally objectionable terms on the police, continued his practice of invective when taken to the station, and ended before the magistrate by denouncing all the witnesses as liars, perjurers, conspirators, and vagabonds. He had to pay a fine of 20s. to avoid seven days' imprisonment.



MODE OF TRANSPORTING LARGE GUNS FOR COAST DEFENCE,



BOTTLE-TREES OF QUEENSLAND, NORTH AUSTRALIA.



THE FOSTER LAMB.

The Extra Supplement.

THE INTER-UNIVERSITY BOAT-RACE.
PORTRAITS OF THE CREWS.

The work of the last week has considerably altered the aspect of the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race. Ten days ago it was generally considered that the latter could not lose; while, at the time of writing, the supporters of the "dark blues" are glad to take anything over 6 to 4 against them. They seem to row with far more life and power, are as well together as ever, and have done some capital trials over the course. The Cambridge men, on the other hand, have certainly not improved, even if they have not deteriorated. The accident to one of Hoskyns's hands, which kept him out of the boat for several days, was very unfortunate; and now that he is able to resume his place Robinson has had to retire, owing to a severe cold and cough. Fortunately the "light blues" have a capital man in Peabody, all ready to take the vacant seat; still, these changes, at so late a period, must be prejudicial. We fancy that Oxford is decidedly the faster crew, and quite expect to see them lead through Hammersmith Bridge; but Cambridge will stay the better of the two, and will win a close race. We append the names and weights of both eights:—

CAMBRIDGE.	st.	lb.	OXFORD.	st.	lb.
J. B. Close, First Trin. (bow)	11	5½	C. C. Knollys, Mag. (bow)	10	11
E. Hoskyns, Jesus	11	2½	J. B. Little, Christ Church	10	12
J. E. Peabody, First Trin.	11	8½	M. G. Farrer, Brasenose	12	6
C. W. Lecky-Brown, Jesus	12	3½	A. W. Nicholson, Magdalen	12	9
J. S. Turnbull, Trinity Hall	13	0	R. S. Michelson, Pembroke	12	7
C. S. Read, First Trinity	13	2	W. Sherwood, Christ Church	11	4
C. W. Benson, Third Trin.	11	7	J. A. Ormsby, Lincoln	11	4½
E. H. Rhodes, Jesus (stroke)	11	4	F. T. Dowling, St. John's (st)	11	5
C. H. Candy, Caius (cox.)	7	8	G. E. Frewer, St. John's (cox)	7	10

THE FOSTER LAMB.

An interesting feature of rustic life and scenery, in the early months of the year, is the appearance of those bleating infants which have, in the course of nature, been added to the flocks of sheep in every green meadow, and which, by their look of helpless innocence, seem to claim our tender sympathy, as the pastoral poet has remarked—

In flowery spring-time, when the new-dropped lamb,
Tottering with weakness by his mother's side,
Feels the fresh world about him, and each thorn,
Hillock, or furrow, trips his feeble feet,
Oh, guard him carefully!

The ewes, indeed, will take very good care of their young, if placed on dry ground with suitable pasture, and provided with sheltered pens and a litter of straw till the usual time for weaning, about the middle of July. Some of the lambs, however, are doomed to a premature victimisation by the butcher's knife, and to supply a dainty dish of roast meat for the epicure's dinner-table, before they have had long experience of this wicked world. It must, here and there, also happen by mischance that a poor little creature is deprived of its maternal parent, in which case the fostering aid of a gentle human hand should be employed; and such is the pleasing incident shown by our Artist's sketch. Here is a good little girl, who may be, for aught we know, that child, named Barbara Lewthwaite, one day overheard by Wordsworth, bidding her pet lamb to drink:

Rest, little young one, rest! thou hast forgot the day,
When my father found thee first in places far away;
Many flocks were on the hills, but thou wert owned by none,
And thy mother from thy side for evermore was gone.

He took thee in his arms, and in pity brought thee home,
A blessed day for thee! then whither wouldst thou roam?
A faithful nurse thou wast; the dam that did thee rear
Upon the mountain tops no kinder could have been.

Thou know'st that twice a day I have brought thee in this can
Fresh water from the brook, as clear as ever ran;
And twice in the day, when the ground is wet with dew,
I bring thee draughts of milk, warm milk it is, and new.

Thy plot of grass is soft and green as grass can be.
Rest, little young one, rest! what is't that aileth thee?
It will not, will not rest! Poor creature! can it be
That 'tis thy mother's heart that is working so in thee?

THE NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.

Yesterday week the annual general meeting of this most energetic and successful society was held at the Mansion House—the Lord Mayor presiding. The report read by Mr. R. Lewis, the secretary, shows the valuable services which it renders. This institution has 233 life-boats on the coasts of the United Kingdom and of the Channel Islands, and during the past year these boats saved the lives of 569 persons, and nearly the whole of them under circumstances of peril that would have precluded any other boats from getting to their aid. This was in addition to rescuing twenty-five vessels from destruction. Upwards of 300 persons were saved by the life-boats during the storms of the last two months of the past year. Five new boats were constructed last year. During the year nineteen silver medals and votes of thanks, and £2637, had been granted for saving the lives of 739 persons by life-boats, shore and fishing boats, on the coasts and outlying banks of the United Kingdom. The number of lives saved during the forty-nine years from the establishment of the institution in 1824 to the end of the year 1872, either by its life-boats or by special exertions for which it had granted rewards, was 21,485. Since the establishment of the institution it has expended on life-boat establishments and other means for saving life from shipwreck upwards of £300,000, and has voted ninety-one gold medals and 842 silver medals for saving life, besides pecuniary rewards to the value of £40,000. The total amount of receipts during the year 1872 was £27,331; and the expenditure, including liabilities, £23,124. The Earl of Courtown proposed the adoption of the report, and Mr. Vivian, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Plimsoll, M.P., Sir Harcourt Johnstone, M.P., and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, urging the claim of the institution upon the public.

One of the old line-of-battle screw-steamers, the Hood, is being fitted up in Chatham Dockyard as a torpedo-ship.

At the annual meeting of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, held on Tuesday night, Mr. Thomas Carlyle was by warm acclamation re-elected president, an office which he has held for several years.

The Bath and West of England Association decided on Tuesday to hold next year's meeting at Bristol, subject to approval of sites offered and fulfilment by the city of the other conditions required by the association.

A handsome and massive piece of plate, subscribed for by nearly 300 gentlemen, has been presented to Mr. W. P. Nicholls, in recognition of the eminent services he has for many years rendered to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital as surgeon to it at institution. The presentation took place last Saturday at the Guildhall, at the hands of the Mayor, Sir S. Bignold.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, March 27.

There has been a decided lull in the political atmosphere this week. Although a few black clouds still hang over the political horizon, for the moment all is peace; and the arrival of the Easter holidays, which will very possibly be prolonged into a six weeks' vacation, is eagerly awaited by the Assembly, anxious for a little repose. The "séance orageuse" respecting the recent suspension of Legitimist and Bonapartist journals, which we were led to expect for to-day, has been avoided by the withdrawal of the obnoxious edicts of the Governor of Paris, and the only debates now likely to create any agitation are those upon the petition of Prince Napoleon and the reconstruction of the Vendôme Column, both of which may be expected in the course of a few days. This tranquil state of affairs has enabled even indefatigable M. Thiers to find leisure for a little relaxation. Last Friday he might have been met at the Hôtel Drouot, examining M. Wilson's famous gallery of paintings, previous to its being brought to the hammer, and especially Delacroix's famous "Sardanapale," which has been purchased by M. Durand-Ruel for a trifle under £4000. On Sunday he was present at a concert at the Conservatoire, where he was repeatedly and enthusiastically cheered.

The slowly but surely approaching dissolution of the National Assembly continues to be the leading topic of conversation in Paris. According to the *Rappel*, M. Thiers has expressed an opinion that the dissolution could scarcely be delayed beyond Oct. 15, and that the Assembly could easily finish the debates on the Budget and the Constitutional laws by that date. At a meeting of the members of the Left, held in Paris last Sunday afternoon, the petitions for a dissolution, collected by the *Siccle*, bearing 192,205 signatures, were presented, and the meeting immediately passed a vote of thanks to the *Siccle*, and resolved to lay the petitions before the Chamber without delay. Apropos of the dissolution, the well-known Ministerial organ the *Bien Public* has contradicted the rumour circulated in London to the effect that Lord Lyons had been informed by M. Thiers that the Treaty of Commerce would not be discussed by the present Assembly, but by the new one, which will meet in January, 1874. Great discontent prevails in French commercial circles concerning the course adopted by the French Government with reference to the new treaty, which is almost generally looked upon as impracticable, and as ruinous for French interests; while, on the other hand, there is the certainty that Great Britain will make no further concessions.

The Assembly has been occupied almost every day this week with discussing different measures relative to the government of the départements in New Caledonia, and the occasion has furnished M. Jules Favre with a theme for one of those fascinatingly eloquent speeches for which he is so renowned. Listened to quietly enough, for a wonder, by the Chamber, which generally refuses to listen to him at all, the ex-Vice-President of the Government of National Defence pleaded warmly in favour of the women who of their own free will had joined their husbands in New Caledonia. To these women he wished to have allotted, when they became widows, a certain proportion of the property cultivated by the condemned colonists. His proposals were, however, eventually negatived by the Chamber. The Assembly has also rejected a bill allotting a sum of 100,000fr. for the purpose of sending French workmen to the Vienna Exhibition. These votes must be attributed rather to the implacable hostility of the Right towards the late Communists, and in some respects towards the working classes generally, rather than to motives of economy, since the Budget for 1874, recently laid before the Chamber, shows a probable surplus of three million francs of income over expenditure; a very satisfactory state of things, considering the large increase in the public debt caused by the payment of the war indemnity. It is to be noticed, however, that the Minister of Finance proposes to add still further to the present taxation of the country, in the shape of fresh imposts on land, houses, and furniture.

We have also had a somewhat interesting debate concerning the petition of General Carré de Bellemare against the decision of the Commission appointed to revise the promotions granted to officers during the late war. M. de Bellemare had been created General of Brigade for his brilliant conduct at Weissenbourg, Würth, and Sedan, and was afterwards promoted to the rank of General of Division during the siege of Paris, in the defence of which he played a somewhat important part, it being mainly owing to his blundering that the garrison lost the advanced position of Le Bourget. The Commission presided over by General Changarnier, doubtless influenced by this mishap, had lowered M. de Bellemare to the rank of General of Brigade, and it was from this decision that he appealed. M. Cazot, a member of the Left, pleaded his case with great eloquence, while the Commission was defended by its president, and by the Minister of War. M. Gambetta took up General de Bellemare's case, however, and delivered an excited speech, which probably did it more harm than good, the Assembly eventually passing to the order of the day by 461 votes to 155.

The Municipal Council of Paris has voted a law increasing by 17 centimes the land, furniture, and door and window taxes, and by 5 centimes the license taxes in the capital, for fifteen years from Jan. 1, 1874, to repair the damage done during the war by the Commune.

M. Thiers received on Friday a deputation from the French Academy to congratulate him on the successful issue of the negotiations with Germany.

The Government, yielding to the remonstrances of the Spanish Minister in Paris, has issued a decree prohibiting the exportation of arms and ammunition to Spain.

M. Thiers has received from the King of Portugal the grand cross of the Order of St. James, instituted for the reward of merit in literature, science, and art.

M. Amedée Thierry, the historian, is dead.

ITALY.

By a very considerable majority, the Chamber has supported the Government in its determination not to disturb the equilibrium of the Budget for the sake of increasing the expenditure on the armaments. The Ministry, while making this a question of confidence, pledged itself to provide efficiently for the defence of the State.

BELGIUM.

In Tuesday's sitting of the Chamber of Representatives it was announced that M. Thibault had been appointed Minister of War. On Wednesday the Chamber passed the Estimates of the Minister of Justice.

SWITZERLAND.

The Grand Council of Berne has, by 162 votes against 15, approved the decisions of the Government relative to the dispute with Bishop Lachat.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The Vienna *Gazette* announces the betrothal of the Archduke Charles Louis to Princess Mary of Braganza.

The question of an independent Hungarian Bank, which has been rather angrily discussed of late in the Hungarian Diet, was settled, on Monday, by the announcement that the Council of Ministers had agreed to the establishment of a new Discount Bank, in such a manner that the special privileges of the National Bank of Austria will not be prejudiced.

We are informed officially that the Universal Exhibition at Vienna will be opened on May 1 by the Emperor.

GERMANY.

Saturday last was the seventy-sixth anniversary of the birthday of the Emperor of Germany, who received the congratulations of many Royal and distinguished personages. The day was loyally celebrated by the Berlin populace.

The Imperial Prince of Germany will not be able to attend the opening of the Vienna Exhibition, in consequence of the state of his health.

On Saturday last the formal ratifications of the new treaty between France and Germany were exchanged at Berlin.

In Monday's sitting of the German Parliament, the Government bill for improving the position of public officials passed the second reading, as well as a bill relative to the excess expenditure for the Navy over the Estimates.

RUSSIA.

The Empress of Russia has been received at Naples with great éclat. Her Majesty, who is in excellent health, proceeded at once to Sorrento.

The expedition against Khiva is now fairly in motion. The Tashkend column began its march on the 15th inst., and the Orenburg column has made some progress in its journey across the Steppe. Lieutenant Stumm, who is to accompany the Khivan expedition as representative of the Court of Berlin, had an audience of the Emperor William on Wednesday, prior to his leaving for St. Petersburg. The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* states that a Kirghese chief, who formerly served with the Russians, is threatening the military road from Orenburg to Tashkend with a large force of cavalry.

TURKEY.

A daughter was born to the Sultan on Thursday week. The Government has concluded a loan for £50,000,000 with the Imperial Bank and the Bank of Credit.

ROUMANIA.

The Chamber, on Monday, by 49 votes against 15, passed the Budget of 1874. The revenue of the year is estimated at 87,000,000 fl., and the expenditure at 89,500,000 fl.

PERSIA.

Particulars of the approaching visit of the Shah to Europe are given in a telegram from Teheran of Tuesday's date. On his departure from Teheran he will be accompanied by the Russian Minister as far as Engeli. There the Russian fleet will be assembled to salute his Majesty on his arrival, and he will be met by Prince Menschikoff, the Aide-de-Camp of the Czar. From Engeli the Shah proceeds to Astrakan, remaining there two days, thence going on to Moscow, where his Majesty stays three days, and from there to St. Petersburg. At St. Petersburg the Shah is to remain twelve days, but will not there meet the Emperor of Germany, as announced, and he will proceed to Berlin at the commencement of June. From Berlin his Majesty travels to Brussels, and thence to London. The arrangements for the visits to Paris, Vienna, and Rome are not yet fixed.

INDIA.

On Tuesday the Viceroy had the satisfaction of announcing to the Legislative Council at Calcutta that the Government did not intend to reimpose the income tax.

Lord Northbrook will proceed to Simla on April 14. Major Macdonald, commander of the garrison of a hill fort near Peshawar, has been murdered by the Pathans.

CHINA.

A telegram from Shanghai announces that the young Emperor has consented to receive the foreign Ministers without requiring them to go through the ceremony of "koto"—that is, of prostrating themselves on being admitted to his presence.

UNITED STATES.

The Senate has pronounced that the charges made against Senator Clayton could not be sustained. A resolution has passed the Senate welcoming the abolition of slavery in Porto Rico "as a pledge of sincerity and an omen of perpetuity for the Spanish Republic."

The Massachusetts House of Representatives has rejected, by 142 votes against 83, a resolution to provide for an amendment to the Constitution that women may have the right to vote and hold office the same as men.

CANADA.

The Government of the Dominion has been defeated in the Legislature by four votes. The defeat arose on an election petition against an Opposition member, in which the Government supported a decision of the Speaker.

The two views of the Peiho forts and the British Consulate, on page 304, are from sketches by Mr. N. Chevalier.

Lord Cochrane's statue at Valparaiso was inaugurated on Feb. 12 by the President.

The Marquise de Boissy, formerly known as the Countess Guiccoli, the friend of Lord Byron, died recently at Florence, after a long and painful illness.

Lord Enfield states that no newspaper correspondents, English or foreign, will be allowed to accompany the Russian expedition to Khiva.

"All well" is the gratifying report which has been received of the Challenger. Her cruise to St. Thomas was most successful; and on leaving there she will shape her course to New York, touching at Bermuda.

It is announced from Constantinople that the British Government maintains its protest against the increase of the Suez Canal dues, and holds the Turkish Government responsible for sums paid by British shipowners in excess of former rates.

Mr. George Smith telegraphs from Moussouli—where he is prosecuting, on behalf of the *Daily Telegraph*, his search for Assyrian records—the welcome intelligence that, having been permitted by the Turkish Government (thanks to the exertions of Sir Henry Elliott, our Ambassador at Constantinople) to commence operations, he has already made several discoveries, and has written and dispatched some long letters.

The Board of Trade has presented Captain Barends, of the Hamburg-American steam-ship *Holsatia*, with an aneroid barometer, for saving the lives of sixteen men of the ship *Lslye* Love, bound from Montreal to Queenstown, and given £2 to each of the six men who manned the boats of the *Holsatia* on the occasion. A binocular glass has also been forwarded to Captain Heblch, of the screw-steamer *Silesia*, for his services in saving the crew of the barque *General Neill*, bound from Quesne to Limerick, under great difficulties.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Brathwaite, R., to be Rector of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.
Butter, James; Rector of Horseheath, Cambridgeshire.
Cunningham, Edward; Vicar of Marnham, Notts.
Grinstead, C.; Vicar of Colnbrook.
Gardiner, William; Vicar of St. George's, Claines, Worcester.
Hobbs, Septimus; Rector of Compton Valence.
Jolley, William Rowe; one of the Chaplains in Ordinary to her Majesty.
Kestell-Cornish, R. K.; Secretary S.P.G. for Barnstaple Archdeaconry.
Lumley, W. Faithfull; Curate of Barley, Herts.
Lumley, J.; Vicar of Dale Head, Slaidburn, Yorkshire.
Norman, R.; Rector of Fiddington, Bridgewater.
Parkinson, R.; Honorary Chaplain to her Majesty.
Reeve, John William; Rector of St. Dunstan-in-the-East.
Ross, J. Lockhart; Rector of Scrofton, near Worksop, Notts.
Verey, James; Vicar of Scrofton, near Worksop, Notts.
Wildman, T.; Incumbent of St. Andrew's Church, Callandar, N.B.
Willett, Albert Lewis; Vicar of Meriden, Warwick.

Archdeacon Sandford died on his seventy-second birthday, which fell on Saturday last.

The Bishop of Exeter was, on Tuesday, a witness before the House of Commons' Committee appointed to inquire into the working of the Endowed Schools Act of 1869. In the course of his evidence his Lordship stated that he thought gratuitous education worked badly. He also preferred selection by merit to selection by patronage. With regard to examinations, the right rev. prelate said that, when he was head master at Rugby, he would rather that these had been compulsory. He was upon the governing body of one of the schools now under the statute of 1869, and found the system to act well.

The revisers of the Old Testament yesterday week finished their sixteenth session in the Jerusalem Chamber, and completed the second revision of the Pentateuch.—Speaking at Sheffield on Monday evening, the Rev. D. Angus, member of the New Testament Revision Committee, stated that the work of revising the New Testament will be completed in seven years and the Old Testament in twelve years if the committees continue, as at present, to devote forty days a year to the work. The Americans have also appointed two committees to whom the English work is referred for suggestion. The completed work will therefore represent the united scholarship of the English-speaking people.

The Earl of Shaftesbury has had placed two tablets on the wall of the parish church of St. Giles's, Wimborne, in memory of his deceased Countess and daughter. The inscriptions are:—"To the memory of a wife, as good, as true, and as deeply-beloved as God in His undeserved mercy ever gave to man. On 15th October, 1872, she entered into the rest that Jesus Christ has prepared for those who love Him."—"To the memory of Constance Emily, a deeply-beloved daughter, whose suffering life and joyful end were the rich example of the truth of her chosen text—'To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain' (Philip i. 21). At Mentone, 16th December, 1872, God took her unto Himself."—A memorial tablet to Dr. Walker, the late Rector of Cheltenham, has been placed in the parish church.

Two stained-glass windows have been erected in the chancel of the parish church of West Lydford, near Taunton, by Mrs. Knyton, of Uphill, Somerset, only daughter of the late William Hungerford Colston, D.D., for nearly fifty-eight years Rector of the parish; a memorial window, representing the Seven Works Mercy, has been placed in the church of Wood Ditton, Cambridge; the widow of the late Mr. Baldwin Fulford, of Great Fulford, has erected a painted window in the parish church of Durham to the memory of her husband; an east window, by Clayton and Bell, has recently been erected in the chancel of Melbury Osmond church, as a brass on the wall records, by the widow of the Rev. John Jenkins Matthews, late Rector of Medbury, in remembrance of her daughter and grandchild; Christ Church, Liverpool, has been enriched by a handsome stained-glass window, which was unveiled last Sunday; two beautiful windows of richly-stained glass, the gift of the Holdsworth family, of Shaw Lodge, near Halifax, have been inserted in Illingworth church; a stained-glass window has been placed in Canterbury Cathedral, in memory of the late Dean Alford; and a memorial west window, containing five lights, has been fixed in the parish church of Barnstaple, in commemoration of the happy recovery of the Prince of Wales from the fever by which he was struck down at Sandringham in December, 1871.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

The appointment is gazetted of the Rev. E. King to the office of Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology, together with the dignity of Canon of Christ Church, void by the death of Dr. C. A. Ogilvie.

The examiners have elected H. Broadbent, scholar of Exeter, to the Ireland Scholarship. Proxime Accesserunt (the names being placed in alphabetical order):—H. H. Asquith, scholar of Balliol; A. Butler, scholar of Trinity; J. S. Lockhart, scholar of Corpus; T. C. Snow, scholar of Corpus.

The examiners have reported to the Vice-Chancellor that they have made the following award in the Hall and Hall-Houghton prizes:—Senior Septuagint Prize (no candidate); Junior Septuagint Prize to Mr. A. G. Wood, scholar of Pembroke; Senior Greek Testament Prize to the Rev. C. L. Dundas, B.A., Brasenose; Junior Greek Testament Prize to Mr. R. H. A. Schofield, scholar of Lincoln; Syriac Prize (no candidate). The examiners also recommend for gifts of money or books the following four candidates:—For the Senior Greek Testament Prize, Mr. G. Edmundson, B.A., Fellow of Brasenose, and the Rev. G. H. Gwilliam, B.A., of Jesus; for the Junior Greek Testament Prize, Mr. W. E. W. Morrison, scholar of Queen's, and the Rev. F. A. P. Shirreff, B.A., of Queen's.

The Arnold Historical Essay has been adjudged to R. L. Nettleship, Balliol, and a present of books to T. R. Buchanan, All Souls.

The Greek Exhibition of £50 a year, at Wadham, has been awarded to F. G. Selby, scholar, and T. E. Child, scholar, both of Wadham, who were adjudged equal.

The examiners for the Vinerian Law Scholarship have elected W. E. Grigsby, Exhibitioner of Balliol.

Mr. W. N. Stocker, unattached student, has been elected to an exhibition at Christ Church.

The Rev. William Hawker Hughes, B.A., of Jesus, has been elected to the Welsh Fellowship in that society.

The statute providing for the inspection and examination of schools in conjunction with the University of Cambridge has been finally passed.

CAMBRIDGE.

It has been resolved, at a meeting held in the Senate House, to erect a memorial to the late Professor Sedgwick. It will take the form of a geological museum.

Mr. John Armine Willis, Fellow of King's College, has been appointed an inspector of schools.

The Board of Natural Science Studies, from representations made to them by the Examiners for the Natural Sciences Tripos, recommended that the numbers for that Tripos be in future seven instead of five.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Bank of England directors on Wednesday advanced the minimum rate of discount from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent.

The Lady Mayoress has discontinued her Tuesday receptions at the Mansion House until after April 23.

Lord Shaftesbury, on Thursday week, opened the new building of the East London Refuge and Shoeblack Society, in Leman-street, Whitechapel.

The Epping Forest Commissioners have concluded their inquiry into the inclosures on the manor of Chingford St. Paul's, and are now proceeding with the manor of Chigwell.

At the biennial festival of the Jews' Orphan Asylum, held on Wednesday at the London Tavern—Mr. Joseph Sebag in the chair—the subscriptions amounted to £2750.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 117,699, of whom 37,580 were in workhouses and 80,119 received outdoor relief.

Mr. Partridge, President of the Royal College of Surgeons and Professor of Anatomy at the Royal Academy, died, on Tuesday, in his seventy-second year. His Portrait will be given next week.

At a meeting of the friends and admirers of the late Charles Knight, a committee has been selected to determine the form of the intended memorial, and to report thereon. The secretaries of the fund are Mr. Shirley Brooks and Mr. S. Spalding.

On Wednesday evening the Lord Mayor entertained 200 provincial mayors, and a hundred guests in addition, the chief of whom were Mr. Gladstone, the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Childers, and the French Ambassador.

The collection of modern pictures of Mr. Edwin Dixon, of Merrivale-grove, near Wolverhampton, was, yesterday week, disposed of at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, and realised £16,500.

At the annual court of guardians of the Caledonian Hospital, yesterday week, it was stated that the working expenses exceed the income by £450. A recommendation of the directors to increase the number of vacancies in June was deferred.

The rejection of the Chelsea Water Bill by the House of Lords was commemorated by a banquet at Hampton Court last Saturday evening. Viscount Midleton, Lord George Hamilton, M.P., and Mr. Peck, M.P., were amongst the speakers.

The testimonial to Mr. George Smith, of Coalville, Leicestershire, for his exertions on behalf of the brick-field children of England, will be presented to him by the Earl of Shaftesbury, in the room of the Social Science Association, 1, Adam-street, Adelphi, this (Saturday) morning.

At a meeting held last week at the Mansion House, to urge the claims of the London Hospital to increased public support, contributions amounting to £37,000 were announced. The magistrates of the Thames Police Court have presented £100 from the poor-box fund at their disposal to the London Hospital Enlargement Fund.

Yesterday week the first general meeting of the Middlesex Rifle Association was held in the theatre, King's College. Lord Ducie, President of the National Rifle Association, took the chair, and congratulated the association upon its formation, believing that it would be of benefit to volunteers generally. The first annual prize meeting of the association will take place at Wormwood-scrubbs, on May 19 and three following days.

A number of the town clerks of England and Wales were invited to a banquet at the London Tavern, on Tuesday night, by the Local Government and Taxation Committee of the City Corporation, whose chairman, Mr. Lawley, presided. Sir Joseph Heron, Town Clerk of Manchester, explained the nature of the organisation recently formed to protest against the laws which at present regulate local self-government.

In the metropolis 2348 births and 1546 deaths were registered last week, the former having been 62 and the latter 162 below the average. Only one person died from smallpox, 16 from measles, 4 from scarlet fever, 4 from diphtheria, 71 from whooping-cough, 35 from different forms of fever, and 25 from diarrhoea. There were 612 deaths attributable to diseases of the respiratory organs, and 47 persons died from different forms of violence. There were five fatal street accidents.

The Royal Botanic Society held its first spring exhibition in Regent's Park on Wednesday. The fine weather attracted a large number of fashionable visitors, and amongst these were the Duchess of Cambridge and the Duchess of Teck. The show was much more extensive and varied than usual on a first day, and the flowers generally were very fine, especially the hyacinths and tulips, which appear year by year to increase in size. The band of the 1st Life Guards was in attendance.

Dr. Manning has introduced a new method of celebrating the Feast of St. Patrick. His temperance crusade was promoted, on Monday, by a mass meeting in Exeter Hall. Fully a thousand persons who could not squeeze their way into the building adjourned to Trafalgar-square, and held a supplementary meeting. The Archbishop opened the proceedings in Exeter Hall, and afterwards addressed a few remarks to those assembled in the square.

The Highland Society of London held their anniversary festival, yesterday week, at the Freemasons' Tavern, on which occasion a large number of gentlemen dined together, many of whom were attired in the Scottish dress. The chair was occupied by Lord Lindsay. Many ladies were present during the later portion of the proceedings.—The fifth annual dinner of the Grampian Club was held, on Wednesday night, at the St. James's Hall Restaurant, under the presidency of the Marquis of Lorne.

The Stationers' Company, with the view of promoting the technical education of the workmen and apprentices in the different branches of trade connected with engraving and printing, have arranged for the delivery of a course of six lectures on printing, its history and progress, from the earliest period to the present day, including also engraving on wood and metal and lithography, by Mr. E. A. Davidson. The admission will be by ticket, which may be obtained, gratis, at Stationers' Hall. The lectures will be given on Monday evenings, March 31, April 7, 21, 28, and May 5 and 12.

The Metropolitan Board of Works agreed yesterday week to advance the following amounts under the Public Loans Act, and as contributions from the board's funds for metropolitan improvements:—£2500 for the widening of Moor-lane, Fore-street; £20,000 balance of loan agreed to be advanced to the School Board for London; a loan of £13,000 to the Vestry of Marylebone, for the Hinde-street improvement; £7000 to the same parish, for the widening of Stingo-lane; £12,000 to Mile-end, for paving works; £10,000 to Chelsea, for sewerage works; £10,000 to Bermondsey, for the purchase of a wharf; and £13,000 to Chelsea for a similar purpose. A protracted discussion is taking place at the board on the resources of the fire brigade. The fire brigade committee had reported them to

be insufficient for the protection of the metropolis, but a strong section of the board consider them ample. The board has taken action to deliver the open spaces of the East-End from the nuisances of carpet-beating and goat-grazing. Several offenders in Hackney have been fined 1s. and costs as a warning.

A lecture, especially interesting to iron and steel manufacturers, was delivered, on Thursday week, to the Fellows of the Chemical Society at Burlington House, by Dr. C. William Siemens, F.R.S., on the manufacture of wrought iron and cast steel direct from iron ore by a new method, which is intended to supersede most of the present operations. By this process the blast-furnaces, as well as the laborious puddling operations, are suppressed—the ore being simply deoxidised, and the iron precipitated in a new furnace specially arranged for the purpose, from which it is withdrawn in the state of blooms, and at once shingled or melted into steel. The special feature, however, and the one of the greatest interest at the present time, is the extraordinary economy of fuel effected by this invention. In place of some four tons of the best coal, as by existing processes is required to obtain a ton of wrought iron, but 23 cwt. of coal of an inferior quality is necessary to produce the same weight. A discussion followed the lecture, in which Dr. Frankland, F.R.S., Professor Williamson, F.R.S., Mr. J. Lowthian Bell, Mr. Riley, and other leading chemists took part, resulting in the confirmation of the views propounded by Dr. Siemens.

THE SPANISH CORTES.

The Cortes or Parliament at Madrid, immediately before its prorogation last Saturday, passed the bill for abolishing slavery in the island of Porto Rico, and appointed a Permanent Committee to assist the Executive Government during the recess while the Chamber of Deputies is dissolved for a general election. Our Illustration is from a sketch taken in the ante-room, or hall of conference, where the members of this Spanish Legislative Assembly meet their friends and constituents who seek a hasty interview for business conversation, as is done in the lobby of our own House of Commons. The gentleman standing in the foreground, with his right hand in his trousers pocket and with a portfolio under his left arm, gazing intently forward with an abstracted air, is Senor Emilio Castelar, at present Foreign Minister of the Spanish Republic, an eloquent speaker, and Professor of History and Oratory in the University of Madrid. Rather to the left, and a little farther back, leaning with his right elbow upon the table or console, is another important member of the Provisional Government, Senor Figueras, President of the Council of Ministers, who is a barrister of some repute, and has been twenty years in the Cortes. The elderly man with spectacles, carrying his portfolio in his left hand, who shows the profile of his face behind Senor Castelar, is the Minister of the Interior, or of Home Affairs, Senor Pi y Margall, who is esteemed a high authority upon social, economic, and financial questions. In the left-hand corner of the Engraving, well forward on the floor, are shown the figures of two gentlemen, one in military uniform with an unbuttoned surlout, the other spectacled, and burdened with the official portfolio, like his colleagues of the civil administration, who are earnestly talking with each other. The former is General Cordova, Minister of War under the late King Amadeo, and the latter is Senor Echegaray, who was Finance Minister during his Majesty's reign, and who likewise continued in office, as did also Senor Becerra, Minister of Public Works (Fomento) some time after the proclamation of the Republic. Both General Cordova and Senor Echegaray, however, have since been superseded respectively by General Acosta and Senor Tutau; while Senor Beranger has been appointed Minister of Marine; Nicholas Salmeron, a University Professor, Minister of Justice; and Francisco Salmeron, Minister of the Colonies. It is the last-named personage who appears in our Engraving in the act of reading to Figueras a letter or paper, which may concern the affairs of Cuba or Porto Rico. Such are the present rulers of Spain.

"KING LEAR."

In this study of an aged head by Mr. Holyoake, the artist has lighted on a model well suited to recall Shakespeare's conception of Lear. And the old King is represented in the most pitiful situation of that most pathetic of plays—we mean, of course, the heath scene of the third act, where the poor crazy Monarch and his fool are buffeted by the storm. As the best commentary on the picture we quote part of Lear's apostrophe to the storm, giving those words in italics which the painter intended specially to illustrate:—

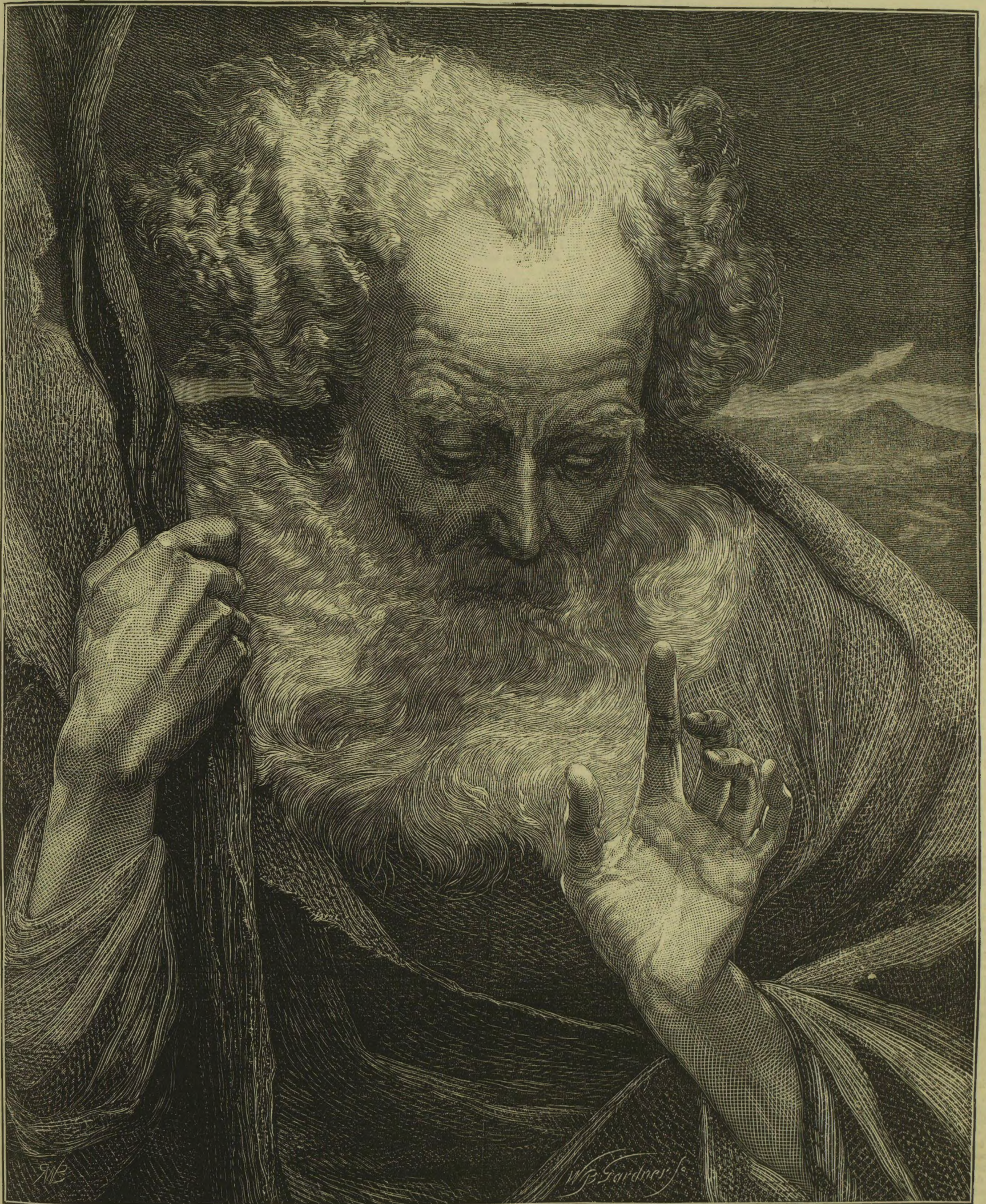
*Lear. Rumble thy bellyful! Spit, fire! spout rain!
Nor rain, wind, thunder, fire, are my daughters:
I tax not you, you elements, with unkindness!
I never gave you kingdom, call'd you children,
You owe me no subscription; why then, let fall
Your horrible pleasure! here I stand, your slave,
A poor, infirm, weak, and despised old man;
But yet I call you servile ministers,
That have with two pernicious daughters join'd
Your high engender'd battles 'gainst a head
So old and white as this. O! O! 'tis foul!*

Major Du Cane, R.E., who has been long known as an able administrator of the convict department, and Mr. P. W. Rogers, who has rendered valuable services in connection with the Chancery funds, are to be made Companions of the Bath.

On Wednesday morning the secretary of the committee of the Yorkshires College of Science received a subscription of £1000 from the Duke of Devonshire, and one of £250 from Lord F. Cavendish, towards the college.

Mr. Rylands and his colleagues on the Committee of Public Accounts have presented their first report to the House. It contains a very serious charge against the postal telegraph department in respect to the irregular expenditure of large sums of money out of the balances in the hands of the Postmaster-General, in anticipation of the annual vote. Last year, the Committee state, they made a similar complaint; but the irregular proceedings then commented on have been repeated during the last twelve months, and, "the whole of the additional million of capital granted in 1871 having been spent, the department, instead of applying to Parliament for a further grant, has continued its payments for extensions, &c., defraying the cost out of the balances in the hands of the Postmaster-General." The Committee state that £656,000 had been thus spent up to the end of November, 1872, and that a sum not far short of £800,000 will have been so expended before the end of the current financial year, and that a large proportion of this has been derived from savings-bank deposits. The report proceeds to comment upon the "imperfect, if not altogether nugatory, check of the Audit Office, and the ignorance which admittedly prevailed at the Treasury with regard to the fact that the Post Office had largely exceeded its authorised capital." They recommend a complete and searching inquiry before the Estimates are voted.





"KING LEAR," BY W. H. HOLYOAKE.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

Although the chief of the Opposition has declined to take office, it would seem that he intends to show that he is nevertheless a power, and can make himself troublesome. At any rate, Mr. Disraeli has fulfilled the one distinct pledge which he gave to his party at Manchester last spring—namely, that he would meet the Burials Bill of Mr. Osborne Morgan front-face. The defence against the alleged attack which it involves on the Church he has conducted in person; but, whether intentionally or not, he has failed to bring about a stirring debate, in which Conservatism was to be in its highest feather, and defiance to Non-conformity to be loud and fiery; for a more common-place discussion, carried on by a duller set of speakers, could hardly be conceived. In the outset a touch of the ridiculous was given to the question by the extraordinary manner in which Mr. Osborne Morgan moved the second reading. The subject being mortuary, he seemed to think it appropriate to put his voice into mourning, to give to his elocutionary cadences a weeping sound; when he laughed it was as it were hysterically, and occasional attempts at sarcastic jests were painful to listen to, the pain being aggravated by the execrable expression of his countenance, which is indescribable. There never was a more tempting opportunity for turning an opponent into utter ridicule than Mr. Morgan now afforded to Mr. Disraeli, who followed to move the rejection of the second reading of the bill. But for some reason or other (perhaps the chill and stiffness of a morning sitting) he may have had something to do with it, the Opposition chief scarcely retorted, sent forth hardly the ghost of a repartee, and altogether adopted so level and so mild a mode of dealing with his case that, though his speech was singularly ingenious, and was here and there pleasantly infused with his peculiar humour, it might have been delivered by, say, Sir John Pakington, though of course in such a case it would have appeared a supreme effort. What the effect of the speech was may be imagined when it is said, not that Mr. T. Hughes thought himself capable of replying to it, because that proves nothing, but that the whole House was willing to let that gentleman undertake the task, not a single other candidate for the hearing presenting himself. What need to dwell on the details of that dreary discussion, which was given up wholly to third-rate men, and which had about it as much of the spirit of a great party contest as the consideration of the proverbial Turnpike Bill? The outwork was not vigorously defended, and of course was won.

However, a triumph has been practically won by the Opposition over the Government, upon which the former doubtless dwelt with grim satisfaction, though in justice it must be said that they did not indulge in any overt crowing. On the evening after the Government had slunk back into their seats, when the House was in what may be called a "hock-and-soda-water" stage—that is, in a condition of languid reaction after the excitement of the Ministerial crisis—came forward Mr. Gathorne Hardy, with a motion about the "Three Rules" under the Washington Treaty which involved, apparently, a danger to Ministers. At any rate, the Government "whips" were in a state of stolid despair, and had no idea how the disorganised Liberal members would vote, and the event indicated that the return to office of Ministers might have been signalled by their being again put into a minority. There is no need to enter here on the merits of the question; suffice it to say that with remarkable skill and in excellent tone and temper Mr. Gathorne Hardy expounded his case; and, to the surprise of many, Mr. W. E. Forster was put up to answer him. Doubtless, this was done because of the friendly feeling felt by everyone in the House towards this gentleman personally; and he, as it were, acted for the Government merely as what is called a "buffer;" for no one supposed that he could illustrate the subject in hand, and it was thought lucky that he did not by inadvertence bring in something about cattle disease or school boards. Curiously, however, if he was selected in order directly and indirectly to conciliate opposition, he rather failed, for his usual hearty, candid manner was not in the ascendant, and he was rather bluff, and in some sort surly. The speech of Mr. Vernon-Harcourt was conceived in his usual vein, and went wholesale against the Government; and he might have been accepted as a type of a certain number of Liberals who would on this occasion have deserted the Government. At length, having evidently been duly instructed, the Attorney-General appeared to argue one way and to concede another; so that Mr. Disraeli was justified in asking, in a mocking tone, whether the Prime Minister would indorse the statement of his law officer, and to add that if this were done the Ministry would be spared the mortification of a division with an unpleasant result. Time was when, under such circumstances, Mr. Gladstone would have been fiery and defiant—would have dared the worst, and set his Ministerial life upon the hazard of a division. But circumstances so recent and so sad had palpably brought a change over his spirit, and if it were said that he was humble, it would hardly be going too far; but certainly he was subdued, conciliatory, and, with only a semblance of qualification, accepted the grace which was offered to him. If in withdrawing his motion Mr. Gathorne Hardy could not suppress a smile of triumph, who shall blame him?

If to be able to speak for three hours without a pause or a check in introducing the Navy Estimates be a qualification for a First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Goschen has amply established his right to hold that office. There never was such an elaboration of naval policy and detail—never such an organised apology pervading every sentence for an increase in the Estimates of £300,000 as his recent speech. Conceive the power and capacity which could enable a First Lord to occupy twenty minutes in proving that steam-boilers in men-of-war would wear out in time, that they must be replaced, and the restoration must cost money; while, as it were, by a conspiracy, the boilers of the whole Fleet had combined to become worn out this year! In fact, every word of the statement indicated positive fright at the terrible responsibility incurred by the existence of an increased vote for the Navy. The proceedings on the occasions of discussion of Naval Supply still resolve themselves into a dull drama, in which the same actors repeat the same parts and almost the same words; and as they are none of them, so to speak, histrionic, nothing can exceed the dreariness of those long, pottering nights. Of course, now as ever, Sir James Elphinstone would insist on bringing on a "grievance," before he would allow the House to go into Committee on Supply; of course, Sir John Hay said ditto to Sir James, as he always does, unless Sir James is saying ditto to him; of course, Lord Henry Lennox put forth, at a great cost of physical exertion, the forcible feebleness which is in him, and which is now stimulated by a notion that he is a proximate First Lord of the Admiralty; of course, Mr. G. Bentinck played in his best manner his favourite part of an "old salt;" of course, Mr. Samuda sent forth sonorous platitudes; and, of course, Mr. Childers sat at the ear of Mr. Goschen, with a half sardonic smile on his face, ready and willing to perform the function of a "candid friend" to the dearly-beloved colleague who, probably according to his notion, is filling in a shambling, timid fashion the place which he himself filled with an aplomb and

an audacity which were never yet equalled. Altogether, the developments of naval policy and administration just now are curiously unsatisfactory, not because they exhibit any particular faults in the actual working of the system, which ordinary and initiated people would at once discover, but because there seems to characterise the deliverances of the First Lord a nervousness, a want of spontaneity (not of fluency certainly), and a general want of robustness, which may be derived from the circumstance that he is speaking not his own mind and inspirations, but, as it were, vicariously.

PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

There was no business in the House yesterday week.

Progress was made on Monday with a few bills, including the Custody of Infants Bill, which was read the second time. The Supreme Court of Judicature Bill was committed pro forma, and, some amendments having been inserted, the bill was ordered to be recommitted on Tuesday next.

It was announced by Lord Granville on Tuesday that their Lordships would be asked to adjourn for the Easter recess on the 4th proximo until the 21st. The subject of the alleged unseaworthiness of many of our merchant-ships was brought forward by Lord Lauderdale, who received from Lord Cowper an assurance that the Commission of Inquiry into the subject was nearly constituted. The Victoria Embankment (Somerset House) Bill and the Epping Forest Bill were passed through Committee, and the Marriages (Ireland) Bill was read the second time.

Their Lordships sat only about half an hour on Thursday, during which time the Poor Allotments Management Bill and the Pastary Laws Amendment Bill passed through Committee. The Victoria Embankment (Somerset House) Bill and the Epping Forest Bill, were severally read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Besides the Ministerial explanations on Thursday week, of which a summary appeared in our last Number, the following business was transacted:—The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Register for Parliamentary and Municipal Electors Bill, which, among other things, creates one register and one revision for both classes of electors, and alters the dates of the different processes of making up the list by fixing June 24 as the starting point. After a desultory discussion of its details, the bill was read the second time. The Salmon Fisheries Commissioners Bill passed through Committee. The Thames Embankment (Land) Bill was read the second time, and was referred to the same Committee as the Charing-cross and Victoria Embankment Approach Bill. The Fires Bill and the Public Worship Facilities Bill were passed through Committee.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, yesterday week, Mr. G. Hardy moved an address to the Crown, in reference to the interpretation placed by the Tribunal of Geneva upon the three rules in the sixth article of the Treaty of Washington and upon the principles of international law involved, and praying her Majesty to intimate to foreign maritime Powers her Majesty's dissent from the principles set forth by the basis of their award. He disclaimed any party object, and supported his motion with a variety of arguments, pointing out the impracticability of such a code of international law, and the embarrassing results which would follow its adoption. He exposed the absurdity of the arbitrators' interpretation of "due diligence." He declared that in order to make the treaty worth anything, these dubious points must be clearly explained, and he urged that some precise and definite rules should be laid down which we considered just and right, and by which we were ready to abide. Mr. W. E. Forster concurred in much that the hon. member had said, but he could not assent to the motion, as it would be a vote of censure on the arbitrators. He attributed the American claims to the ambiguity of our municipal law. He explained that a correspondence had been in progress with the United States in regard to these rules, and it lay with the Americans to resume it. We were bound to these rules so far only with America, and he deprecated any controversy on the subject in the circumstances. Mr. V. Harcourt supported the motion, which was opposed by Mr. Rathbone. Mr. Laing opposed the motion. Sir S. Northcote said the rules were imperfect, owing to the circumstances under which they were drawn up, and he urged the Government now to have them thoroughly cleared up. The Attorney-General said the resolution was undignified, and would lead to no good result. Mr. Disraeli followed, and congratulated the House that this debate had elicited the determination of the Government not to adopt the interpretation of the three rules put upon them by the arbitrators. He suggested that the motion should be withdrawn. Mr. Gladstone wound up the debate, replying to several points in Mr. Disraeli's speech, and ultimately the motion was withdrawn. In Committee of Supply, Excess Votes for 1871-2 in the Civil Service and Revenue Departments were agreed to.

Mr. Gladstone prefaced the course of public business, on Monday, by the statement that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would introduce the Budget on Monday week, and that the House would thereupon—or certainly on the following day—adjourn for the Easter holidays, reassembling on April 21. The questions on the paper were unusually numerous, and it was a quarter past five before the orders of the day were reached. After a little preliminary skirmishing between Admiral Elphinstone and Mr. Goschen on naval affairs, the First Lord introduced the Navy Estimates for the year. The right hon. gentleman occupied nearly three hours and a half in the delivery of his speech, but its principal points are capable of compression into a very small space. Mr. Goschen started with the statement that the net charge upon the revenue of the year on account of the Navy would be £9,362,000, being an excess upon the Estimates of last year of £340,000; an excess which he explained by reference to the difficulties which had beset the Administration of dearer coal, dearer iron, and higher wages. The present force of the British Navy consisted of 114 fighting-ships, against 49 owned by France, 12 by Germany, and 45 by America. Of these 114 ships 23 were ironclads—more by a dozen than the three nations named could boast when their ironclad fleets were put together. The programme of the year comprised the building of 20,000 tons of shipping, 14,000 of which were to be unarmoured ships, and the remaining 6000 armoured ships. It was proposed to build two new ironclads, one of the Devastation class—in which the right hon. gentleman took the opportunity of declaring his unshaken confidence—and the other to be a seagoing ship, but of what precise model was a matter yet undecided. It was also proposed to build a small torpedo-ship of 214 tons burden by way of trying experiments. Of unarmoured ships there were to be constructed four new corvettes and six gun-boats, one of the former and all of the latter to be built by contract. Finally, Mr. Goschen announced that 650 men were to be added to the employes at the dockyards, that a rise of wages was to be granted to the unskilled labourer at the rate of 3d. a day, raising his wage from 15s. to 16s. 6d. a week; and to the skilled labourer

cd. a day, making his wages 30s. a week instead of 27s. Lord Henry Lennox followed Mr. Goschen, and pointed out that, "disguise it how you will," there were at the present time fewer men, fewer ships, and a most feeble programme of dockyard work, as compared with the years 1868-9. Mr. Samuda, Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Rylands, Mr. Scourfield, and Lord Henry Scott having continued the debate, Mr. Shaw Lefevre replied, and the vote of 60,000 men and boys, including 14,000 marines, for the service of the year was agreed to; as was also the money vote of £2,629,884 for wages. The House having resumed, the Endowed Schools, the Address Bill, and the Mutiny Bill were read the second time; the Salmon Fisheries Commissioners Bill was read the third time and passed; and the East India Loan Bill was passed through Committee.

Of the fifteen questions which stood upon the paper on Tuesday one third referred to the alleged unseaworthiness of vessels belonging to the mercantile marine. The President of the Board of Trade replied to several statements which had been made on Tuesday by Mr. Plimsoll with regard to the action of the officers of the board in the case of the Sea Queen. Mr. Fortescue denied the general charges that were brought against the department, and read official documents to show that Mr. Plimsoll had been greatly misinformed. Mr. Anderson then called attention to our currency system, and moved for a Commission of Inquiry. Sir J. Lubbock spoke on the subject, with all the authority of a banker, moving, as an amendment, that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the operation of the Bank Act. Mr. W. Fowler contended that the Bank Act was defective, in not giving the power to provide for any sudden demand for currency resulting from panic. Mr. J. B. Smith and Mr. Norwood spoke in favour of inquiry. Mr. Crawford, a director of the Bank of England, stated, on behalf of that institution, that, although it did not anticipate any important results from inquiry, it did not object to it. Mr. Philips expressed himself desirous of inquiry, but preferred a Select Committee to a Royal Commission. The Chancellor of the Exchequer vigorously defended the Act. Some further discussion followed, in which Mr. Vivian, Mr. Weguelin, Mr. Lusk, and Mr. Laing took part; and eventually, after Mr. Gladstone had pointed out that a further opportunity would be afforded for debate when the Chancellor of the Exchequer had redeemed his promise, the original motion and the amendment were withdrawn. Mr. Chadwick next submitted his annual motion for a Select Committee on the incidence, management, and collection of the income tax, but was arrested in the midst of his argument by a count-out.

Nearly the whole of Wednesday's sitting was occupied with a debate on Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burials Bill, the object of which is to allow Dissenters to bury their dead in the parish graveyard with a service of their own—confined to hymns, prayers, and portions of Scripture—and without the formularies of the Established Church. Mr. Disraeli moved the rejection of the bill, and made a long speech, in which he condemned the measure as a direct attack upon the Church. Mr. Bruce, who supported the bill, was the only member of the Cabinet who took part in the debate. After considerable discussion, the bill was read the second time by 280 votes against 217. The Sites for Places of Religious Worship Bill was also read the second time.

Lord Enfield, on Thursday, in reply to Mr. P. Taylor, said that her Majesty's Government felt that they could only recognise the Government of Spain as a provisional Government. On the motion of Mr. Gladstone, the orders of the day were postponed until the motions which had been deferred for the second reading of the Irish University Education Bill had been disposed of. Mr. Newdegate then moved for a Select Committee to consider the time of the day at which the House should assemble, the hours during which the House could most conveniently sit for the transaction of public business, when the Government business should have precedence, and what notice should be given in of any proposal to alter the time at which the House would assemble, or the distribution of business. A discussion thereupon ensued, from which it appeared to be the general feeling of the House that no such Committee was needed, especially at the present period of the Session. The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

Colonel Henderson has received a vote of thanks from the central committee of the last Hyde Park demonstration, and Colonel Fraser, Commissioner of City Police, has been similarly honoured, for the careful and courteous attention shown to the procession on St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. Justice Denman, before the conclusion of the Lincoln Assizes, ordered £5 to be given to Thomas Butlin, in recognition of his successful endeavour to rescue from drowning a woman named Sarah Ann Harding, who was indicted for attempting to murder her two children by jumping into the Welland with them.

Miss Mary Susan Roe, a young lady of Dulwich, has obtained a verdict at Manchester Assizes, for £1200, against Mr. W. H. Worrall, of Eccles, as compensation for breach of promise of marriage; and Miss Morgan, the daughter of a cabinetmaker in Accrington, has obtained a verdict of £175 against Mr. Slater, a guard on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, who has lived at Accrington. An action to recover compensation for breach of promise of marriage was tried at the Norwich Assizes, on Saturday, in which the plaintiff was a domestic servant, nineteen years of age, and the defendant was a fishing-smack owner at Yarmouth, nearly twice as old, who was living separately from his wife. He had spread a false report that she was dead; but now, in consenting to a verdict for £100 damages, professed his willingness to marry the plaintiff on his wife's death.—At the Suffolk Assizes, on Wednesday, damages to the amount of £150 were awarded to Miss Emma Naunton for breach of promise, the defendant being Mr. John Flint.

At the Carnarvonshire Assizes Mrs. Ann Richards, the widow of a naval captain living at Pwllheli, has obtained £900 damages from the London and North-Western Railway for injuries sustained by an accident on their Carnarvon branch.—The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company has been a severe sufferer from verdicts given at the Manchester Assizes. In eight causes in the list this company figured as defendant, and each resulted in a verdict for damages. In a claim by Mr. Bentley, he obtained £300 for injuries sustained by his wife on defendants' line; Mr. Holmes, of the firm of Terry and Holmes, merchants, Manchester, £1000, having been injured by an accident on March 18, last year, while travelling from Halifax to Leeds; and Mr. Cummins, boot manufacturer, £900, as compensation for injuries sustained by an accident, at which several persons were killed, in August last.—The action by Mrs. Frame, of Greenock, against the Caledonian Railway for £1000 as damages for injuries received in the collision at Boghead has been compromised by a payment of £250 and all expenses.—James Gardner, a carver and gilder of Glasgow, claimed in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, as compensation for injuries received in the Kirtlebridge accident, £3000, of which £2000 was awarded by the jury.

FINE ARTS.

SALE OF TURNER ENGRAVINGS, ETC.

A sale of peculiar interest has been begun this week at Christie and Manson's, and will be continued and concluded in April next. We refer to the auction of the whole of the engravings, etchings, and plates left by Turner. This vast collection, which comprised, it is said, as many as 150,000 impressions, has been the subject of a long and costly litigation between the artist's executors and those who claim to be his heirs-at-law, and it is now brought to the hammer by order of the Court of Chancery. The first portion, sold during the first five days of this week, included the whole of the remaining published impressions, etchings, and some engravers' proofs of the "Liber Studiorum," the etchings of some of the unpublished plates, and the steel and copper plates of eleven unpublished subjects. Among the mass there were no less than thirty-two complete sets of the seventy-one plates of the "Liber." What these statements really mean or imply can, however, only be appreciated by those who have noted the growing demand for everything in sepia or black and white by Turner, or produced after his work but under his eye, and in particular the rarity and value of any complete series of the "Liber Studiorum." Nevertheless, those who have no such special knowledge can form some estimate of the importance of this sale from the prices fetched. By way of sample, then, a single set of the seventy-one published plates of the "Liber" brought 850 gs. The highest price ever before obtained for a set of the "Liber" was about £500; but this set included different "states" of many of the engravings. The thirty-two complete sets now realised upwards of £10,000. The prices fetched also this week by single impressions and etchings of the published plates were equally surprising—the average for each was considerably over £10, and an etching and engraving of the frontispiece were knocked down at 72 gs. The etchings of the unpublished plates, nearly all executed by Turner for his engravers, is an interesting series for which we were prepared to hear that even higher prices had been obtained than those actually realised. When we remember, however, that these etchings are by an artist almost our contemporary, and that they have not the extreme rarity of some etchings by Rembrandt and other old masters, the prices—which averaged nearly £30 each—were remarkable. The steel and copper plates of the seventy-one published engravings of the "Liber" were destroyed before the auction, to guarantee that the property of purchasers should not be depreciated. The sale of the plates of the unpublished portion of the "Liber" was, however, another feature of the auction; and the prices realised were high, bearing in mind the deterioration the plates had suffered through being left so long to rust in the damp, squalid, and neglected rooms of Turner's house in Queen Anne-street.

The fortunes of the "Liber Studiorum," of which this sale forms the brilliant sequel, is one of the most romantic stories in the history of art; though the series forms but a limited portion of the enormous mass of works in black and white or brown and white, in which the great artist proved his incomparable fertility of resource and mastery of effect almost as much as in his pictures, and by which he formed the best school of landscape-engraving the world has seen. When only thirty-two years old Turner commenced the "Liber" in bold emulation of Claude's "Liber Veritatis." His original idea appears to have been, like that of Claude, simply to preserve a record of his landscape compositions; but he probably gave more attention to engraving subsequently, for the same reason that Hogarth did—because he found his pictures did not sell. With characteristic self-reliance, Turner published the "Liber Studiorum" himself, and was indefatigable in superintending the dozen or so of engravers whom he formed and educated to interpret his conceptions. The impressions of the copper plates soon becoming deteriorated from printing, Turner frequently amended, retouched, and sometimes completely altered and reworked the plates, chiefly to supply occasional purchasers after the first issue to subscribers; thus producing several "states" of numerous plates—as many as six, seven, and even more states in some instances—and thereby introducing so fertile a source of mystification that a knowledge of such states has become a special branch of study. Notwithstanding all his care, perseverance, skill, and genius, there is little doubt, however, that the "Liber" did not pay; and it was discontinued before the completion of the 100 plates, of which, it is believed, the work was intended to consist. There are many indications of the importance that Turner attached to this publication, and the wonder is that he should have allowed the whole stock—plates, engravings, etchings, and a few drawings of subjects which have never been etched—to moulder and rust in leaky attics and damp, dusty closets, without even definite directions as to their destination. But it is equally, if not more, strange that many of his important oil pictures were exposed to the same neglect.

The interest of this week's sale, great as it is, will, however, be surpassed in April. The sale will then include an immense miscellaneous assemblage of Turner engravings (some of which have never been published) and engraved plates. Among the engravings will be a large number of choice impressions, trial proofs with alterations, and numerous marginal pencil notes by the artist, always suggestive and valuable; also etchings and mezzotints of a long series of celebrated subjects; together with choice sets of the "England and Wales" (the whole stock of which was bought by Turner on the bankruptcy of the Heaths), "The Harbours of England," "The Southern Coast," "The Rivers of France," the illustrations to Scott, Campbell, Byron, Rogers, and Milton, with others too numerous to mention.

We shall return to the subject next week, when we intend to give two Engravings from Turner's "Liber Studiorum."

The annual distribution of prizes won by students of the Female School of Art, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, took place on Wednesday last in the theatre of the University of London, and was attended by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess—herself an amateur artist of great ability—distributing the prizes, and the ceremony being concluded with the delivery of an appropriate speech by the Prince of Wales. The principal prizes were awarded as follows:—Emily Selous, now Mrs. Fennessy, a national gold medal (for an original composition in clay), also a national bronze medal, and the Princess of Wales's own scholarship; Miss Helen Hancock, a national silver medal; Miss Julia Pocock, another silver medal; Miss Emily Austin, a national bronze medal and a Queen's scholarship; Miss Alice Blanche Ellis, a national bronze medal, the Queen's gold medal (a special prize), and a Queen's prize. Queen's prizes were also awarded to Miss Elizabeth Dorrington and Miss Anne Hopkinson.

As the season approaches, the excitement in the picture-market promises to equal the furore of last year. If we have not a Gillett we have a Turner sale, and others scarcely less important. By the national plethora of wealth the present is converted into the true golden age for painters and picture-dealers. Picture-buying is becoming the rage in this country as a safe speculation among various classes quite outside the old landowners; as, for example, among many printsellers,

framemakers, and photographers. Of the last-named class we may cite as a remarkable instance that of Messrs. Elliott and Fry, of Baker-street. This well-known firm have lately filled a new suite of large rooms with a collection of modern pictures and drawings, English and foreign, which twenty years ago would have formed an almost unrivalled display.

In the new story added to the front of that portion of Burlington House which belongs to the Royal Academy, and which is now being exposed to view from Piccadilly by the removal of the temporary entrance and scaffolding, there are nine niches for statues; and the Academy has commissioned members of its body to fill them with the following statues:—Phidias, Titian, Michael Angelo, Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci, William of Wykeham, Wren, Reynolds, and Flaxman.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The second and third days of the Bristol Steeplechases were fully as successful as the first, and the new course has certainly been opened in the most brilliant style. The Prince of Wales was present each day, and it is intended to hold another meeting in November next. The Grand National Hunt Steeplechase, which by the conditions was really confined to bona-fide hunters, brought out a capital field of thirteen, and fell to Pickles, a mare by Caractacus-Lalage, who just beat Cardigan by a short head. She was capitally ridden by Captain Tempest, who, it will be remembered, steered Hall Court in that desperate Grand National finish with Alcibiade. The weather on the third day was somewhat unfavourable—sleet and snow falling at intervals; but, notwithstanding this, the attendance was again very large. Eleven came to the post for the Bristol Grand Annual, to which 500 sovs. was added; but the race was spoilt by a scrimmage at the second fence, by which the chances of Molly Bawn, David Copperfield, Huntsman, Capitol, and Beaumanoir were quite extinguished. It is to these misfortunes that the victory of Phryne (10 st. 3 lb.) must be chiefly attributed, as she was only third in the Ashton Court Steeplechase on the Tuesday. Still, she is a daughter of Knight of Kars, who is the sire of The Colonel and so many brilliant performers across country.

After the long and dreary vacation, the sound of the Lincoln saddling bell was a very welcome one to all classes of racing men, who mustered in large numbers on the Carholme. The crack lightweight, Newhouse, reappeared in brilliant form after his Egyptian excursion, and secured four races in the two days; while the "tricolour" has made a capital commencement to the season, as M. Lefevre carried off three events. Bugler, who wound up last year by winning two or three handicaps, showed that he has wintered well by defeating Lillian very cleverly at 16 lb. in the mile Trial Stakes, and he promises to do great credit to his sire—Young Trumpeter—a horse of whom nothing has hitherto been known. A field of twenty-one contested the Lincolnshire Handicap, Lydon (7 st. 1 lb.) and Delay (6 st. 10 lb.) being greatly fancied. Neither, however, took any prominent part in the race, which fell to Westminster (8 st. 1 lb.), Drumstick (7 st. 7 lb.), and Instantly (6 st. 1 lb.), neither of whom was mentioned in the betting, being second and third. Westminster, who is now seven years old, won the Cambridgeshire in 1869, and, though he has long been considered a "cripple," was brought out in brilliant condition and without a single bandage. Maidment, who rode the winner, may well be called the "lucky" jockey, for he has secured this race four times in the last six years, having ridden Indigestion, Royal Rake, and Guy Dayrell. Cobham (6 st. 10 lb.) ran fairly, though he had a heavy weight for a three-year-old at this early period of the season; but all the other favourites figured very ingloriously.

Some remarks on the probable result of the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race, which takes place this (Saturday) afternoon, will be found elsewhere.

The Cambridge University sports took place on Saturday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last, and were watched with great interest by those anxious to estimate the relative chances of the dark and light blue in the Inter-University sports, which will come off at Lillie-bridge on Monday next. R. Philpot won the 100-yards, but unfortunately broke down, and will not be able to represent Cambridge. J. G. Gurney made the magnificent jump of 5 ft. 9 in.; and C. F. Gunton showed great improvement by beating L. Evans for the Mile, in the very fast time of 4 min. 34 3-5 sec. The most brilliant achievement of the three days was, however, that of the Hon. A. L. Pelham, who beat G. A. Templar by a yard in the Half-Mile; the time (1 min. 59 1-5 sec.), if correct, is the fastest on record. As far as we can judge, the nine events at the Inter-University sports will be allotted as follows:—100 Yards, Urmsom (Oxford); Quarter Mile, a close thing between Urmsom and Templar, but we fancy that the former will just win; One Mile, Sandford (Oxford); Three Miles, Smith-Dorrien (Oxford); Hurdle Race, Garnier (Oxford); High Jump, Gurney (Cambridge); Broad Jump, Davies (Cambridge); Throwing the Hammer, Browne (Oxford); and Putting the Shot should produce a good competition between Browne and Littleton (Cambridge), the latter of whom will probably win.

The first meeting of the London Athletic Club took place at Lillie Bridge on Saturday last, and attracted an unusually large number of spectators. As is almost invariably the case at this early fixture, few of the competitors were in anything like condition, so, with two or three exceptions, the performances were very poor. W. Slade beat W. G. F. Ellis very easily for the Half-Mile Challenge Cup, and A. F. Somerville, of Cambridge, ran right away from his field in the One-Mile-and-a-Half Handicap; but G. R. Johnstone's was the best performance of the afternoon, as, in spite of having to get through a large field, he ran 300 yards in 32 3-5 sec.

Mr. Money Wigram, the great shipowner, has died at the advanced age of eighty-four.

For the first time since 1850 there was a maiden assize on Tuesday in the city of Norwich. The presiding Judge was accordingly presented with a pair of white gloves.

The National Agricultural Union at Leamington has resolved to petition the various Colonial Governments for free passes to agricultural labourers desirous of emigrating; the main object of this appeal being to prevent persons in their condition from seeking countries where they would be strange to the established customs, language, and religion.—On Monday about 200 agricultural labourers belonging to the Bucks Agricultural Labourers' Union left Aylesbury by special train for London, and they have sailed for Queensland in the ship Ramsey. This is the second batch that has left Aylesbury and neighbourhood for Queensland. Mr. Richardson, the founder of the Bucks Union, sails with them.—The City of Bristol, which sailed from the Mersey on Tuesday, had on board one hundred emigrants, the pioneers of an English colony forming in Minnesota. They were drawn from the agricultural counties, and in a month are to be followed by their wives and families. The land taken for the colony is situated on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and has been named Yeovil.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY CHAPTER HOUSE.

The restoration, lately completed, of the interior of this ancient building, which was, during three centuries of English history, the meeting-place of the House of Commons, is a matter of national interest. This Chapter House was built in 1250 by King Henry III., upon the site of an older Chapter House belonging to the Abbey from its foundation by Edward the Confessor two centuries before. When the House of Commons was first convened in the Parliament of 1265, called by Earl Simon de Montfort, after the battle of Lewes, summoning two knights from every shire, two citizens from every city, and two burgesses from every borough, these began sitting in Westminster Hall, side by side with the earls and barons, the bishops and abbots, who constituted the House of Lords. But from and after 1282, with a view to separate acts of self-taxation, the different Estates of the Realm were assembled in places apart from each other. The Commons were then to be provided with temporary accommodation in Westminster Abbey, for the convenience of being near the other members of the King's Parliament, in Westminster Palace and Hall. They sometimes used to sit in the refectory of the ancient monastery, now destroyed, but at other times in the Chapter House, as might best suit the occasions of the Abbot and his monks. Upon this tenure of goodwill and custom, as it appears, did the representatives elect of the Third Estate continue, nearly 500 years, to occupy the quarters assigned to them, probably at the King's request, in the precincts of the Abbey. But on the dissolution of the ancient monastery, in 1540, the Chapter House passed into the possession of the Crown. From that time the Dean and Chapter held their meetings in the Jerusalem Chamber, the Chapter House becoming a depository of public records. During this period it was fitted up with bookshelves, which disfigured and concealed its beauty. In 1865, after the removal of the records to the Rolls House, on the 500th anniversary of the foundation of the Chapter, and the 600th anniversary of the House of Commons, its restoration was undertaken, at the request of the Society of Antiquaries, by Mr. Gladstone, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Cowper-Temple, First Commissioner of Works. The requisite sum was granted by Parliament, and the work was intrusted to Sir Gilbert Scott, who has restored the place as nearly as possible to its original state. The roof has been entirely rebuilt. The paintings which were concealed by the bookshelves are now disclosed. Those at the east end, over the stalls of the Abbot and his four chief officers, are of the fourteenth century, and represent the seraphs round the throne of the Saviour; but those round the walls were painted in the fifteenth century by one of the monks of the convent, named John of Northampton, and represent scenes from the Revelation of St. John, with pictures of birds and beasts underneath. The figures on each side of the entrance, representing the Annunciation, are ancient. The central figure is modern, but represents what was formerly there. The tiles in the floor, covered with curious heraldic emblems, are now seen for the first time. The tracery of the windows has been restored after the model of the one which had been left uninjured on the north-west side. It still remains for them to be filled with stained glass, according to the original design.

ASTRONOMICAL OCCURRENCES IN APRIL.

(From the "Illustrated London Almanack.")

The Moon is very near the planet Jupiter during the early hours in the evening of the 7th: they rise nearly at the same time, and the planet during the night will be to the right of the Moon. During the night which is common to the 13th and 14th Mars will be near the Moon, the planet being to the left of the two bodies. On the morning of the 20th Saturn and the Moon will be near each other. The Moon will be near Mercury on the morning of the 25th, and near Venus during the evening of the 27th. Her phases or times of change are:—

First Quarter on the 4th at 39 minutes after 6h. in the afternoon.	
Full Moon " 12th " 51 " " 9 " " afternoon.	
Last Quarter " 20th " 47 " " 5 " " morning.	
New Moon " 26th " 42 " " 10 " " afternoon.	

She is nearest to the Earth on the afternoon of the 23rd, and most distant from it on the afternoon of the 7th.

MERCURY at the beginning of the month sets about 45m. after sunset; nearly at the same time as the Sun on the 7th; and after this day he sets in daylight till the end of May. After the 10th he rises before the Sun by about 30m. till the end of the month. He is not well situated for observation. He is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 6th; stationary among the stars on the 18th; in conjunction with the Moon on the 25th, on which day he is a second time this year in aphelion, and at his greatest distance from the Sun.

VENUS is an evening star, setting 4h. 9m. after the Sun on the 1st; on the 16th she sets at 10h. 5m., or 3h. 10m. after the Sun; and on the last day at 8h. 32m., or 1h. 13m. after the Sun. She is stationary among the stars on the 14th, and in conjunction with the Moon on the 27th.

MARS rises on the 5th at 9h. 1m. p.m., or 2h. 23m. after sunset; this interval decreases very rapidly till the 25th, when the planet and the sun set nearly at the same time. He rises in daylight from the 26th till the end of the year. He is visible throughout the night. He is in conjunction with the Moon on the morning of the 14th, and in opposition to the Sun on the 27th p.m. He is due south on the 15th at 1h. 6m. a.m.

JUPITER sets on the 1st at 4h. 27m. a.m.; on the 15th at 3h. 31m. a.m.; and on the last day at 2h. 32m. a.m., or 2h. 5m. before the Sun rises; he is therefore visible throughout the night from these times. He is due south on the 10th at 8h. 21m. p.m., on the 20th at 7h. 41m. p.m., and on the last day at 7h. 3m. p.m. He is in conjunction with the Moon on the 7th, and stationary among the stars on the 17th.

SATURN is a morning star, rising on the 1st at 3h. 21m. a.m.; on the 11th at 2h. 42m. a.m.; on the 21st at 2h. 4m. a.m.; and on the last day at 1h. 30m. a.m., or 3h. 7m. before the Sun, on which day he passes the meridian, or is due south, at 5h. 47m. a.m. He is in conjunction with the Moon on the 20th, and in opposition to the Sun on the 22nd.

On Sunday morning Mrs. Ann Slacombe died at Sermon's Almshouses, Isleworth, in her 101st year.

The Rev. Vyvyan Moyle, who pleaded guilty at the York Assizes to the charge of forging scrip representing nearly £12,600, has been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

The marriage of the reigning Duke of Saxe-Meiningen with the actress Fraulein Franz was privately solemnised at Castle Leichtenstein last week. Fraulein Franz will henceforth bear the name of Baroness Heilburg.

Three of the four men who, it is believed, were concerned in the great City forgeries are now in custody—namely, Edwin Noyes, who is in the House of Detention under remand from the Mansion House; Macdonnell, who was secured in New York; and Austin Bidwell, alias Frederick Albert Warren, who has been apprehended at Havannah. George Bidwell is the only one now to be captured.



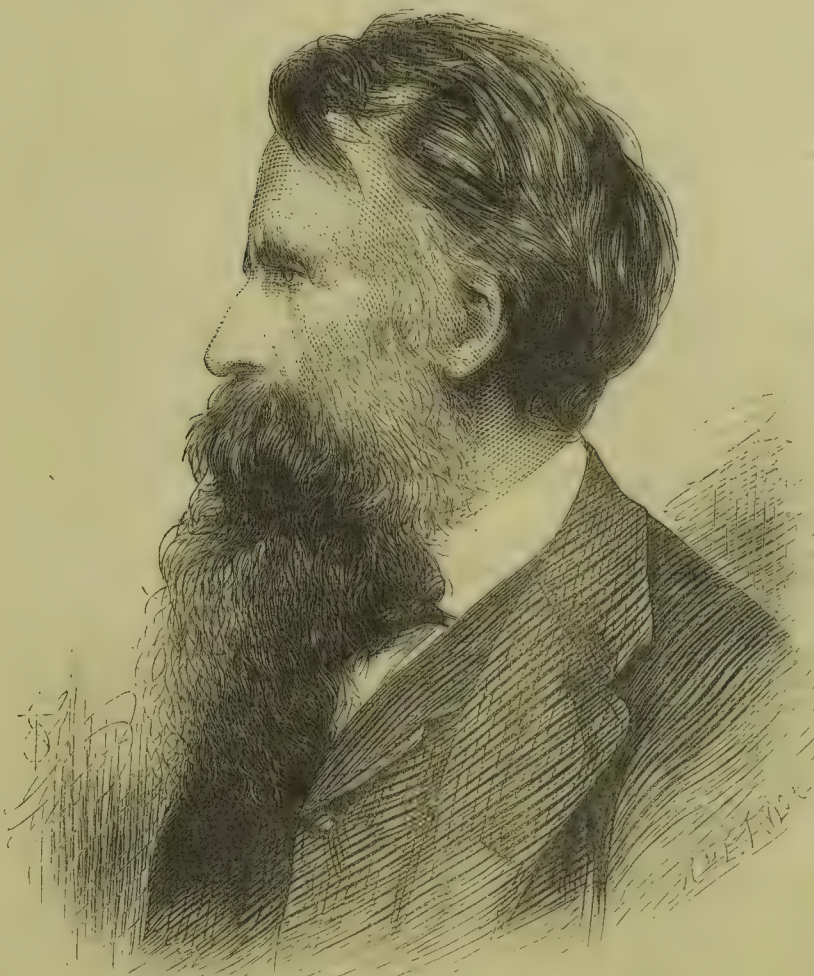
CHAPTER-HOUSE OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY, LATELY RESTORED.



THE LATE VISCOUNT OSSINGTON, EX-SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE LATE LORD OSSINGTON.

The death of Lord Ossington, who, as Mr. Evelyn Denison, was Speaker of the House of Commons during fifteen years, took place on the 7th inst., and has been recorded in the obituary news. The Right Hon. John Evelyn Denison was eldest son of Mr. John Denison, of Ossington, in Nottinghamshire, some time M.P. for Chichester, by his second wife, a daughter of Mr. Samuel Eastwicke. He was born in 1800; he received his education at Eton, and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he obtained the degree of M.A., and not long ago was created honorary D.C.L. At a very early age he entered into public life, becoming member for Newcastle-under-Lyme in July, 1823. He sat for that borough until 1826, when he migrated to Hastings, which he represented until 1831. In the following year he was chosen one of the members for his native county, Nottinghamshire. He was a Junior Lord of the Admiralty in Canning's Ministry of 1827. In December, 1832, after the Reform Act had passed, and Nottinghamshire had been separated into two divisions, he was elected for South Notts. He represented that constituency until 1837, when circumstances rendered it necessary to take refuge in the borough of Malton, under the influence of Earl Fitzwilliam. At the general election of 1841 he again sought the suffrages of the electors of Nottinghamshire, and it was to those of North Notts that he owed the seat which he occupied from that time until his retirement from the House of Commons in the early spring of last year. He filled the Speaker's chair—as successor to Mr. Shaw Lefevre, now Lord Eversley—from the year 1857 down to last year; when, feeling that, after fifteen years of constant work, his health was no longer equal to the strain and fatigue of that position, he expressed his wish to be relieved from his official duties, and was summoned to the Upper House as Viscount Ossington, a title which he took from his



THE LATE MR. R. W. THOMSON, C.E., OF EDINBURGH.

family seat in Nottinghamshire. He refused the usual retiring pension. Lord Ossington had married, in July, 1827, Lady Charlotte Cavendish Bentinck, third daughter of William, fourth Duke of Portland; but by his marriage had no issue. His title, therefore, has become extinct. Several of his Lordship's brothers rose to eminence in their respective professions.

The Portrait of Lord Ossington is from a photograph by Mr. Mayall, of Regent-street.

THE LATE MR. R. W. THOMSON.

This distinguished Scottish engineer was inventor of the locomotive traction steam-engine, with broad indiarubber tires on the driving wheels, for use on common roads, also of the portable steam-crane and the elliptic rotary engine, as well as of an improved hydraulic floating dock; and some of his inventions have, from time to time, been described in our Journal. He died at Edinburgh on the 8th inst., in the fifty-first year of his age, having been born in 1822, at Stonehaven, where his father had established a factory. In early youth he showed great talents for mechanical science, and, after spending two years of his boyhood in America, served a practical apprenticeship in workshops at Aberdeen and Dundee, followed by learning the profession of a civil engineer at Glasgow, and subsequently with his cousin, Mr. Lyon, builder of the Dean Bridge at Edinburgh. He was employed in the blasting of Dunbar Castle, and in that of Dover Cliff, where he first applied the method of firing mines by electricity. He next passed into the employment of the Stephenson's, as a railway engineer in the Eastern Counties. In 1852 he went to Java, to erect the machinery of a sugar-plantation, which he greatly improved, and, becoming a partner in the estate, resided there till 1862, when he came home and settled at Edinburgh. The portrait is from a photograph by Mr. Peterson, of Copenhagen.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

Mr. MAPLESON has the honour to announce to the Subscribers and Patrons of Her Majesty's Opera that the SEASON will begin on

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1873.

The performances will again be given in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, which has been found perfectly adapted for operatic representations.

It will be seen from the accompanying prospectus that the Director has been so fortunate as to secure the services of all the established favourites of former seasons. During the recess the Director has personally devoted much time and attention to making engagements with new artists, who are worthy, he feels satisfied, of being presented to the patrons of Her Majesty's Opera, and whose acknowledged merits are such as to justify him in confidently submitting them to this severe trial. The list of these new appearances, which will be noticed, embraces a complete and efficient double company, which by itself would do honour to any lyric establishment in Europe. The Director need hardly point out that this really forms a new era in the annals of Opera in this country. The great advantages to be derived from these special arrangements are apparent. The Director will thus be enabled to present many of our standard Operas with casts entirely new, and at the same time to make preparations for bringing out new works for the principal members of the former staff, who will, besides, reappear in their well-known parts. The Director feels satisfied that the great variety and novelty thus imparted to the season will make it one of the most interesting and attractive in the whole history of Opera in London.

It will be noticed that the Director has determined upon producing "Mignon" and "Favorita" for the first time under his management; and also the posthumous work "Il Talismano," by our countryman, M. W. Balfe. Drury Lane Theatre was the scene of the great triumphs of this talented composer, and it was his last wish that this work should be first performed in the scene of these former successes. The Director has unqualified pleasure in being able to accede to this desire of a distinguished musician whom any country would gladly claim as its own. This important event will give a special interest and zest to the season. Sir Michael Costa, who kindly consented to superintend the production of this production, which is a sufficient guarantee that it will be perfect in all its details.

Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.

The Director begs to announce that this peerless artist will again appear before the audiences who in former seasons have so fully appreciated her talents. Some of the close of the London season have been devoted to the production of "Mignon" and "Favorita," which have been so successfully presented at the Theatre Royal, St. Petersburg. It is a pleasure to announce that Madame Nilsson has established herself as the star of the season, and in addition to appearing in the parts of "Mignon" and "Favorita," she will take the role of Mignon, and will be the first to appear in Balfe's new opera "Il Talismano."

Madame CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG.

This favourite artist, at the close of the season, returned to America, where she has renewed her former triumphs, and, if possible, more firmly attached to herself the admiration of her countrymen. Madame Kellogg will appear during the month of June.

Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.

Madame di Murska, whom the Director had the gratification of first presenting to a London audience, has been re-engaged, and will appear, after an absence of two years, in those parts which have won for her the esteem of a large circle of admirers.

Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.

The Director feels pleasure in being able to include this great artist's name in the list. Her services, in connection with the perfect rendering of many of our greatest Operas, have become simply indispensable.

Madame TITIENS.

There are many Operas containing the noblest characters in the Lyric Drama, which must either be omitted from the repertoire of any establishment, or only imperfectly rendered, unless Madame Titiens is a member of the Company. Among those characters which she holds undisputed may be cited Norma, Lucia, Semiramide, Medea, La Contessa (in Mozart's "Nozze"), Donna Anna, Valentina (in "Les Huguenots"), and Elcilda. In fine, Madame Titiens is recognised by all competent authorities as the legitimate successor of that brilliant line of great tragic heroines—Pasta, Malibran, and Grisi.

Signor MONGINI.

This great tenor has been specially engaged to interpret such important parts as Otello, Raoul, &c., for which his qualifications so eminently fit him.

Signor CAMPANINI.

The position, as our first tenor, which this artist at once commanded for himself last season, is the surest test of his great powers he possesses. During the recess Signor Campanini has been in Italy, taking the rest which is essential to the continued strength and purity of a tenor voice. He may be expected to come back to us, therefore, with renewed freshness and brilliancy. In addition to the characters he appeared in last season, he will undertake the roles of Raoul, Faust, &c.

ENGAGEMENTS.

Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.
Madame ALWINA VALLERIA
(of La Scala, Milano—her first appearance).
Madame OSTAVA TORRIANI
(of La Fenice, Venezia, and Théâtre Italien, Paris—her first appearance).

Madame CARLOTTA GROSSI.

Madame ILMA DI MURSKA

(her first appearance these two years).
Madame CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG.
Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Madame JUSTINE MACVITZ

(of the Opera, Trieste—her first appearance).
Madame BAUERMEISTER.
Madame MARIE ROZE.

Madame TITIENS.

Signor MONGINI.
Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO

(from the principal theatres of Milan, Rome, Barcelona, Messina, &c.—his first appearance).
Signor FANCELLI.
Signor CANTONI

(his first appearance).
Signor SINGAGLIA.
Signor RINALDINI.

Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.

(of the San Carlo, Naples, Madrid, &c.—his first appearance).
Signor DEL PUENTE

(of the Teatro Regio, Turin, &c.—his first appearance).
Signor ROTA.
Signor MENDIOROZ.

Signor AGNESI.
Signor BORELLA.
Signor CAMPOBELLO

(his first appearance).
Signor ZOBOLI.
Signor CASABONI.

(of Paris, Madrid, Trieste, &c.—his first appearance).
Signor MEDINI.
Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.

(of San Carlo, Naples, the Viceroyal Opera, Cairo, &c.—his first appearance).

Director of the Music and Conductor,

Sir MICHAEL COSTA.

The CHORUS and ORCHESTRA.

The Chorus for the coming Season has been numerically strengthened, and is now composed of members specially selected from the principal Opera-Houses of Barcelona, Milan, Turin, Genoa, and St. Petersburg. The Orchestra has undergone some important changes, and it is expected, will be found to surpass that of any other lyric establishment in Europe.

Maestro al Piano .. Signor LI CALSI.
Assistant Accompanist .. Mr. F. GODFREY.
First Violin and Soloist .. Mr. SAINTON.
Chorus Master .. Mr. SMYTHSON.
Organist .. Mr. WILLING.
The Military Band of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of .. Mr. F. GODFREY.
Singer Artist .. Mr. WILLIAM BEVERLEY.
Stage Manager, Mr. EDWARD STIRLING.

For the Ballet Divertissements, Madame BLANCHE RIGOS.
Ballet Master, Mr. J. CORMACK.

The Opera will begin at half-past eight o'clock each Evening. The doors will be opened half an hour previous.

The following novelties will be produced during the season:—
Donizetti's Opera, LA FAVORITA.
(With New Scenery, Dresses, and Appointments.)
Fernando .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
(His first appearance).
Alfonso XI .. Signor DEL PUENTE.
(His first appearance).
Baldassar .. Signor CASTELMARY.
(His first appearance).
Leonora .. Madame TITIENS.
(Her first appearance in that character).

Thomas's greatly-admired Opera, MIGNON.
Guglielmo .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Lelio .. Signor COLLINI.
Lario .. Signor AGNESI.
Giano .. Signor PRO.
Frederico .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Filina .. Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.
(Who has kindly undertaken the part.)
Mignon .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.

Meyerbeer's Romantic Opera, DINORAH.

Corentino .. Signor CANTONI.
Heel .. Signor DEL PUENTE.
Un Caciatore .. Signor AGNESI.
Un Caprajo .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Una Capraja .. Madame BAUERMEISTER.
Dinorah .. Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.

Also will be produced, for the first time, a new and original Romantic Opera, in three acts, entitled

IL TALISMANO; or, The Knight of the Leopard. Founded on Sir Walter Scott's novel of that name. The English Libretto by Arthur Matheson. The Italian Translation by Signor G. Zaffra. The Music by M. W. Balfe.

Sir Kenneth of Scotland .. Signor CAMPANINI.
Richard Cœur de Lion .. Signor COLLINI.
L'Emiro .. Signor MEDINI.
Blondel .. Signor CANTONI.
Berengaria .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Edith Plantagenet .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.

The Répertoire will comprise the following:—

Idreno .. Signor CANTONI.
Assur .. Signor AGNESI.
Oroe .. Signor CASTELMARY.
Arasce .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Semiramide .. Madame TITIENS.

MARTA (Flotow).
Lionello .. Signor MONGINI.
Also by Signor CAMPANINI.
Lord Tristano .. Signor BORELLA.
Plunketto .. Signor CAMPOBELLO.
Nancy .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Marta .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.

I PURITANI (Bellini).
Ariaro .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Riccardo .. Signor COLLINI.
Giorgio .. Signor MEDINI.
Also by Madame ALWINA VALLERIA.
Elvira .. Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.

RIGOLETTO (Verdi).
Il Duca .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
(His first appearance).
Rigoletto .. Signor DEL PUENTE.
(His first appearance).
Sparafucile .. Signor PRO.
(His first appearance).
Monterone .. Signor CAMPOBELLO.
(His first appearance).
Maddalena .. Madame JUSTINE MACVITZ.
(Her first appearance).
Gilda .. Madame OSTAVA TORRIANI.
Also by Madame VALLERIA.
(Their first appearances).

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (Donizetti).
Edgardo .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Also by Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Aston .. Signor ROTA.
Raimondo .. Signor CASTELMARY.
Lucia .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.
Also by Madame OSTAVA TORRIANI, &c.

DON GIOVANNI (Mozart).
Donna Elvira .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.
Don Ottavio .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Also by Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Don Giovanni .. Signor DEL PUENTE.
Leporello .. Signor BORELLA.
Il Commendatore .. Signor CASTELMARY.
Masetto .. Signor ZOBOLI.
Zerlina .. Madame CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG.
Donna Anna .. Madame TITIENS.

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO (Mozart).
Cherubino .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.
Il Conte .. Signor AGNESI.
Figaro .. Signor CASTELMARY.
Don Bartolo .. Signor BORELLA.
Antonio .. Signor ZOBOLI.
Susanna .. Madame CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG.
La Contessa .. Madame TITIENS.

LA SONNAMBULA (Bellini).
Elvino .. Signor MONGINI.
Also by Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Il Conte Rodolfo .. Signor AGNESI.
Also by Signor CAMPOBELLO.
Amina .. Madame ILMA DI MURSKA, &c.

LES HUGUENOTS (Meyerbeer).
Raoul de Nangis .. Signor MONGINI.
Also by Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Nevers .. Signor MENDIOROZ.
St. Bris .. Signor AGNESI.
Marcel .. Signor CASTELMARY.
Urban .. Signor MEDINI.
Margarita di Valois .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Also by Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.
Madame CARLOTTA GROSSI.
Valentina .. Madame TITIENS, &c.

ROBERTO IL DIAVOLO (Meyerbeer).
Alice .. Madame TITIENS.
Also by Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.
Isabella .. Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.
Madame CARLOTTA GROSSI.
Also by Madame VALLERIA.
Signor CASTELMARY.
Bertramo .. Signor MEDINI.
Also by Signor MONGINI.
Roberto .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.

FIDELIO (Beethoven).
Florestano .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Jacquino .. Signor RINALDINI.
Pizarro .. Signor AGNESI.
Il Ministro .. Signor MENDIOROZ.
Rocco .. Signor MEDINI.
Marcellina .. Madame MARIE ROZE.

Leonora .. Madame TITIENS.

FAUST (Gounod).
Faust .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
(His first appearance in that character at H.M. Opera).
Mephistopheles .. Signor ROTA.
Valentine .. Signor MENDIOROZ.
Wagner .. Signor PRO.
Siebel .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Margherita .. Madame CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG.
Also by Madame OSTAVA TORRIANI.
Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.

IL FLAUTO MAGICO (Mozart).
Tamino .. Signor CANTONI.
Papageno .. Signor MENDIOROZ.
Sarastro .. Signor MEDINI.
Astridamante .. Madame CARLOTTA GROSSI.
Also by Madame ILMA DI MURSKA.
I Tre Geni .. Madame BAUERMEISTER.
Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Pamina .. Madame TITIENS.

OTELLO (Rossini).
Otello .. Signor MONGINI.
Desdemona .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.

LUCREZIA BORGIA (Donizetti).
Gennaro .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Also by Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Duca Alfonso .. Signor AGNESI.
Maffio Orsini .. Signor MEDINI.
Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Lucresia Borgia .. Madame TITIENS.

ANNA BOLENA (Donizetti).

Lord Richard Percy .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Henry VIII. .. Signor AGNESI.
Sineaton .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Jane Seymour .. Madame CARLOTTA GROSSI.
Anne Boleyn .. Madame TITIENS.

UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (Verdi).
Ricardo .. Signor ITALO CAMPANINI.
Renato .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Sennet .. Signor COLLINI.
Tommaso .. Signor AGNESI.
Ulrica .. Signor CASTELMARY.
Oscar .. Madame TREBELL-BETTINI.
Also by Madame CARLOTTA GROSSI.
Madame VALLERIA.
Madame TITIENS.
Madame MARIE ROZE, &c.

LA TRAVIATA (Verdi).
Alfredo .. Signor ANTONIO ARAMBURRO.
Signor MENDIOROZ.
Germent .. Signor COLLINI.
Violetta .. Madame CHRISTINE NILSSON.
Also by Madame CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG, &c.

SEASON 1873.

The Subscription will consist of 35 nights—viz, 14 Tuesdays, 14 Saturdays, and 7 Thursdays (the dates of which will be duly notified to the subscribers); but as there will (after the first week) be regularly four performances in each week—viz, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday—subscribers will, by making known their wishes at the commencement of the season, have the choice of selecting either two of the four nights.

Subscribers of last season are respectfully requested, if they wish to retain their boxes or stalls, to notify the same at once to Mr. Bailey, at the Box-office of Her Majesty's Opera, Drury Lane, which is open daily from Ten till Four.

Terms (for the Thirty-five Nights):—
Boxes on the Second Tier (for four persons) .. 80 guineas.
Boxes on the First Tier (for four persons) .. 150 guineas.
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Subscribers are respectfully informed that the dates subscribed for will be strictly adhered to, and no nights given in lieu of subscription nights, except by request. Arrangements for special subscriptions may be entered into on application to Mr. Bailey, at the Box-office, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, which is open daily from Ten till Four; also of Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Bubb, Messrs. Lacon and Oller, Messrs. Chappell, Bond Street, Mr. A. Hays, Royal Exchange-buildings; Messrs. Keith and Prowse, Cheapside; and at the West-End office of Her Majesty's Opera, 201, Regent-street.

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BY THE WAY.

It was somewhat difficult, while reading certain columns in the *Times* of Tuesday last, to retain the conviction that this is the nineteenth century. We refer to the terribly-powerful letter in which a correspondent of that journal describes the condition of Cuba and the atrocities which are perpetrated by both Peninsulars and Creoles. Not that the writer has sought to be sensational. He felt that the facts he had to narrate were too dreadful to need strong adjectives and graphic illustration; and, indeed, he has rather taken the tone of a historian depicting events which have long passed. But the horrors of the warfare in Cuba, told as calmly and judiciously as they may, are so revolting that the narration sends us back to the days of old Spain. We think of Alva, and ask whether the Spanish nature has made no advance in humanity since his atrocities astounded nations not then easily moved by the recital of such deeds. Portions of the description we are compelled merely to allude to; but portions that may be more fully dealt with apprise us that both sides murder men and women, by hideous tortures, and that all the savage incidents of a guerrilla war are lavishly reproduced. The cruel execution, some time back, of a group of boys, who were shot on the charge of having profaned some place of interment, is actually defended in the island as having "struck terror," though it was a crime for which the authorities who ordered the executions should have been hanged. This, however, was a merciful business compared to the cruelty with which the Peninsulars now act, and the Creoles avenge themselves. The condition of Cuba is one which calls for indignant protest by all European States, and by the Americans. What amount of abominable ferocity justifies interference with combatants is a hard question in these days; but if amount only be any guide, that is assuredly furnished by Cuba.

Mr. Plimsoll's efforts in favour of the sailor are already bearing good fruit. He has been publicly thanked in the House of Commons by a Minister for having called attention to the state of a vessel declared unsafe. Five Government surveyors have inspected her, and have pronounced her to be utterly unfit for sea. Two days before this announcement is made in Parliament Mr. Plimsoll receives a letter from the attorneys for the owners of the vessel, demanding to know how he obtained his information, and also demanding an apology and compensation. Those two facts may be left to speak for themselves. There has been a great meeting in support of Mr. Plimsoll; and Lord Shaftesbury, ever forward in a good cause, addressed the audience with even more than his usual energy when he is fighting for the oppressed. The nation is fairly waked up on the subject, and for once, we believe, will not be satisfied until vigorous legislation shall have followed the exposure of frightful scandals.

Journalists should keep in stereotype the words, "The necessity of having a public prosecutor has again been demonstrated." The sentence is sure to be wanted almost every week. This last week it has been needed, not more, perhaps, than on other occasions, but very much. Mr. Knox, one of the ablest of our magistrates, has had to dismiss a case which had occupied him on several days; and his own declaration is that the woman who was the prosecutor had been "bought off." A public tribunal has been used as the means for obtaining certain compensation for alleged wrong. This, however, is what every civil tribunal is used for every day of the year; but, then, it is done in a legitimate way. In such cases as that which has come before Mr. Knox the terrors of a public court of criminal justice are invoked, but the prayer is abandoned by reason of certain private influences. The grievance is not one requiring any particular hysterics; but the fact that a criminal charge may be made, and then withdrawn in the way Mr. Knox describes, shows a blotch in our system of legal process, and one which the reforming lawyers might show a little more readiness to efface.

It is, we believe, a long time since a woman has suffered the last penalty, and few will be inclined to wish that the utmost extent of severity should be exercised habitually in the case of those who are exposed to many temptations and sufferings which man cannot plead in extenuation of crime. But, unless it were laid down that no woman should ever die on the scaffold, it would have been impossible to commute the death-sentence in the case of Mary Ann Cotton, the wholesale and remorseless poisoner who was executed at Durham on Monday. Except for her own sake, it is not to be regretted that she not only made no confession, but persisted in absurd falsehood. Minds of a certain description find more satisfaction in the last words of a criminal than in the clearest evidence which can be adduced against him, and it may not be undesirable that this satisfaction should sometimes be withheld. No reasonable person can doubt that Mary Ann Cotton was a systematic murderess, though three Wesleyan ministers failed to induce her to admit the truth. She was an utterly bad woman; let it also be noted that she was nearly an utterly ignorant one. We say this because we have seen some curious observations on the supposed "tendency of women to employ poison." If this really existed to any extent fearful things would happen. What man of us all is not in this respect at the mercy of woman three times every day of his life, yet how many poisoning cases can be summed up in a year? Let us all conspire to poison Ignorance, and then we shall have few cases, at all events, like Mary Ann Cotton's. Meantime, we fear the Durham precedent must be followed at need.

What amount of acquirement is necessary to a "journalist" before he may cease to describe himself as "imperfectly educated"? The question is suggested by the description of a rather clever scoundrel who availed himself of what education he had, and a ready tongue, to find a way of stealing certain sealskin jackets, and who, having failed to produce any effect by mock penitence upon Sir W. Bodkin, has very properly been sent to complete his culture under stern disciplinarians who give no holidays, and where corporal punishment is decidedly not abolished. That is all quite satisfactory; but, we want to know what sort of journalism this Autolycus-Lothario cultivated. We dare say that sundry sharp pens are already busy over satiric suggestions on the point; and, while expecting amusement, we recall a bit from Dr. Maginn (we think in *Fraser*), who described the literary qualifications of certain Irish candidates for a menial office, and stated that some of them were pitifully ignorant, "one poor fellow actually writing such English as might be looked for in the leading articles of the . . . newspaper."

Society has been varying its rather monotonous gaiety with a graceful novelty, or rather a revival. Instead of charades, or little plays, some distinguished persons have been amusing themselves with "Living Pictures," arranged in the best way, under artistic superintendence. We have wondered that there is not more of this kind of amusement. There would be, if in families addicted to scenic practices there were not usually some one man, or more often some one woman, deeply convinced that he or she is a fine theatrical artist. Being of a resolute nature, this person manages to have plays, got up, in which he or she is privately—or not quite privately—of opinion that one

part is well acted. This may or may not be; but it is certain that several parts will be badly acted. Now in the *tableau* everybody can excel. Grace and beauty will dominate, as elsewhere, but nobody can go wrong, and bad taste cannot intrude, because pictorial art has already dictated the dresses, colours, and attitudes. Furthermore, at the performance in question, the "waits" were practically abolished—that is, something as good in its own way as the *tableau* was given while the next picture was preparing. This is a happy thought. The public theatre offers many excellent temptations to one to stay away from it, and not the least is the insufferable bore of the "wait," and the irritating fiddling that puts us out of temper for the next act. But the last thing theatres will get rid of is a convention—we are glad to see that society is more sensible. A brilliant musical evening, varied with brilliant pictures, is about as refined an amusement as can be desired.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT BRISTOL.

The visit of the Prince of Wales, last week, to Berkeley Castle, the seat of Lord Fitzhardinge, was arranged for him to see the races of the Grand National Hunt meeting, and other steeplechases, on the new course at Bristol. The castle, of which a View is shown in one of our Engravings, is situated, with a village or little town of the same name, nearly half way between Gloucester and Bristol, on the banks of a stream that falls into the Severn. It is a fine specimen of the grim stronghold of an ancient feudal baron, having been well preserved by its owners, whose family have possessed this place, without interruption, during twenty-five generations.

The building is of an irregular shape, but approaching the form of a circle, and is surrounded by a moat; its outer walls and battlements overtop the trees that grow around it. The keep, which is the oldest part, was probably built about the end of the eleventh century, but was enlarged in the times that followed until the fourteenth; there is, too, a square tower with round turrets at the angles, built on a mound to overlook the rest of the castle; this tower was constructed in 1342. At the top of the main building is a dismal chamber, detached from the rest, which is to be reached by a footbridge and a flight of steps with a strong gate. It was in this room that King Edward II. was murdered, on the night of Sept. 21, 1327, by his gaolers, Lord Maltravers and Sir Thomas de Gournay, acting under the orders of Queen Isabella. The owner of the house, Thomas Lord Berkeley, who had treated the King with respectful kindness, was compelled meanwhile to be absent at Wotton-under-Edge. There are other apartments in the castle worthy of notice. The hall is a noble room, 48 ft. long and 33 ft. wide, built in the time of Edward III. It has a vast old chimney-place, and the walls are decorated with armour and with antlers of deer. The chapel, divided by a floor into two stories, the lower for servants or retainers, the upper, approached from the dining-room, for the family and guests, is also remarkable. The kitchen and adjoining offices are of the fourteenth century. Many portraits of historical interest are hung on the walls of the principal apartments in this castle. We give a view of the interior of the dining-room.

The noble proprietor, Francis William, second Baron Fitzhardinge, is eldest son of the late Admiral Sir Maurice Henry Fitzhardinge Berkeley, G.C.B., and M.P. for Gloucester, who was created Lord Fitzhardinge in 1861, and who died in 1867. This Sir Maurice Berkeley, first Lord Fitzhardinge, was second son of the fifth Earl of Berkeley; but his elder brother, William, created Earl Fitzhardinge in 1841, died without issue in 1857, having failed in a claim to the earldom of Berkeley. The lineal ancestor of this family was Robert Fitzhardinge, a Danish knight, son of a Prince of Denmark, who accompanied William the Conqueror to England; and his son, Maurice, obtained the lordship and took the name of Berkeley, upon his marriage with Alice, daughter of Roger de Berkeley, who held the manors of Berkeley and Dursley by grant from his kinsman, Edward the Confessor. The lords of Berkeley did good service to the Crown in keeping the Welsh frontier, as well as in Scotland and in the French wars of Edward III.; also in the battle of Flodden, in the civil wars of the seventeenth century, and in opposing the rebellion of 1745. The present Lord Fitzhardinge was born in 1826; he sat in the House of Commons, for Cheltenham, from 1856 to 1865.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Major-General Probyn, went down to Berkeley Castle on Tuesday week, by the Great Western Railway from London to Bristol, where he received at the station, without leaving the train, an address from the Mayor and Corporation. His Royal Highness then went on by a special train to the station near Berkeley Castle, on the Bristol and Birmingham branch of the Midland Railway. Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge had invited a company of guests to meet him, amongst whom were the Marchioness of Hastings, the Countess of Westmoreland, the Earl of Aylesford, the Earl of Coventry, Lord C. Beresford, Sir C. Kershaw, and Mr. H. Chaplin, M.P. On the next day, which was the first day of the races at Bristol, the Prince and the rest of the Berkeley Castle party went by special train to that city, and arrived upon the racecourse at one o'clock. His Royal Highness, with Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge and the Marchioness of Hastings, was in a carriage drawn by a pair of greys, which was followed by other carriages with their friends. The Prince was greeted with hearty cheering at the station and in the streets of Bristol, and along the road to the racecourse. When he alighted at the portico of the Grand Stand there was another demonstration of welcome, which was renewed as he showed himself upon the balcony of the reserved portion in the County Stand. A room at the back of the Grand Stand had been tastefully fitted up for his accommodation. He went round the inclosure, looking at the paddocks, stables, and other arrangements, with which he was much pleased. During the whole afternoon the Prince remained to see every race, and went back to the railway station, on his return to Berkeley Castle, shortly before six o'clock. He attended the races again next day to see the great steeplechase of the Grand National Hunt. On Friday his Royal Highness left Berkeley Castle and returned to London.

The conciliation board of the South Staffordshire ironmasters and ironworkers met again on Monday, with no conciliatory effect. The men refuse the offers of the employers, and the employers will not entertain the demands of the men. It is not even agreed between them that they shall abide by the decision of the North of England Board of Arbitration, though the men's delegates have promised to consult their constituents, and give a decision next Monday.—Under the presidency of the Bishop of Lichfield, and in the presence of many magistrates and coal and iron masters in the Wolverhampton district, an address and handsome testimonial were, on Monday, presented to Mr. Hugh M'Crea, who has been many years at the head of the county constabulary.—On Tuesday afternoon the blast-furnace owners of the north of England held a meeting at the Royal Exchange, Middlesbrough, to consider the application of the men for an advance of 25 per cent. It was resolved not to accede to the request, the masters considering that the wages already paid are reasonable.

MUSIC.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

This institution entered on its sixty-first season last week, when the first of its series of eight concerts took place at St. James's Hall, where the performances have been given since their removal from the Hanover-square Rooms, in 1869. This year is the seventh of Mr. W. G. Cusins's occupancy of the office of conductor, which he has fulfilled so greatly to his own credit and the advantage of the society. The orchestra has undergone some substitutions, in consequence of the non-permission of the authorities of Her Majesty's Opera for some of the instrumentalists to send deputies on the three or four Monday nights when performances might happen to be given by both institutions. One or two important members of the Philharmonic band have, however, remained, at a considerable sacrifice, as this engagement is a much briefer one, and therefore far less lucrative than that of the opera.

The orchestral pieces at Wednesday's opening concert of the new season were Schumann's overture, scherzo, and finale; Beethoven's overture, "Die Weihe des Hauses" (symphonic in its grandeur); the same composer's fourth symphony (in B flat); and the overture to M. Gounod's opera, "Le Médecin malgré lui." The performance of these was generally satisfactory, notwithstanding the many changes in the band, which will doubtless soon become still more efficient with further co-operation in its changed condition.

Signor Alfonso Rendano played Mendelssohn's pianoforte concerto in G minor with great energy and brilliancy in the first and last movements—his most successful reading having been that of the intermediate "Andante;" Madame Girard sang, with considerable dramatic feeling, a fine declamatory aria by Glück, "Berenice, ove sei" (from "Lucio Vero"), which had been cleverly re-scored by Mr. Cusins, and the romance (Italianised) "Ei del venir" from Halévy's "La Juive;" and Mr. E. Lloyd gave Don Ottavio's air, "Dalla sua pace" (from "Don Giovanni"), with good taste and style.

At the second concert (on April 2) Brahms's "Requiem" is to be performed, for the first time in public in this country.

Herr Pauer delivered the first of three lectures "On the History of the Oratorio," in the large room of Exeter Hall, last week. These lectures have been specially prepared in association with the Sacred Harmonic Society, and the choral illustrations are rendered by a select body of the society's chorists. The specimens given on Wednesday commenced with the "Lully Lullay" sung by the women of Coventry at one of the ancient pageants of that city. This was followed by a double chorus of Palestrina; an extract from the earliest oratorio, properly so called—"L'Anima e il Corpo," by Emilio del Cavaliere; and "Jephthah," an oratorio by Carissimi, whose style had much influence on that of Handel. The solos in Carissimi's oratorio were assigned to Misses Banks, M. Severn, Mrs. Sidney Smith, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Chaplin Henry. Herr Pauer's remarks displayed an intimate knowledge and long study of his subject, and were received throughout with much applause. At the second lecture on Wednesday last the illustrations were taken from Stradella, Scarlatti, Schutz, Keiser, &c.

The third concert of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, under its new conductor, Mr. Barnby, took place last week, when Handel's "Israel in Egypt" was performed. The colossal choruses, single and double, of this sublime work derived a grand effect from the immense volume of tone produced by the gigantic choir and correspondingly large band, together numbering some 1200 executants. The instrumental portion of the score was strengthened by the additional accompaniments of Mr. G. A. Macfarren. The vocal solos were generally well sung by Mesdames Corani and Patey, Miss Julia Wigan, Mr. Cummings Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Thurlay Beale. Mr. Cummings (who appeared instead of Mr. Sims Reeves, absent from illness) made a special effect by his delivery of the arduous air "The enemy said." Rossini's "Stabat Mater" and Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" are to be given by the same society on April 2.

Madame Schumann's fourth and last recital was announced for Thursday afternoon, when the programme comprised her own pianoforte trio, op. 17; Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata; Robert Schumann's "Waldscenen;" and the Hungarian Dances of Brahms, in association with Herr Joachim, by whom these pieces have been so adapted. Signor Piatti was to be the violoncellist, and Fraulein Schulz the vocalist.

M. Pradeau, a pianist of the brilliant French school, began a series of three historical recitals at the Hanover-square Rooms last week. The second performance took place on Tuesday evening; and the third is announced for April 8. During the two past performances M. Pradeau has played a selection from the works of the classical composers for the pianoforte, ranging from the period of Scarlatti, Bach, and Handel, to that of Weber.

The twenty-first of the present series of Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts—now approaching a close—commenced with Cherubini's overture to "Lodoiska," and resumed the serial performance of Beethoven's symphonies with No. 8 (in F), which was given with that excellence which is an established characteristic of the orchestral performances here. The "allegretto" movement received the usual encore. Another special feature at Saturday's concert was the same composer's pianoforte concerto in G, the fourth and last but one of Beethoven's works of that class. In his execution and reading of this—difficult of worthy attainment in both respects—Mr. Franklin Taylor proved himself, as he has on various former occasions, a pianist of exceptional merit in mechanism and intelligence. The cadenzas introduced were Beethoven's own. Dr. Hiller's new "Dramatic Fantasia," produced at the concert referred to, displays all his mastery over the combinations and contrasts of orchestral writing, but is devoid of originality or imagination. The attempt to reflect the characteristics of "tragedy," "comedy," "modern drama," and "ballet" is more happy in design than execution, the only portion possessing any attractive quality (and that but slightly) being the third division, in which are some light and rather graceful dance themes. Should the fantasia be repeated, it will be well to place it again at the end of the concert, so that those may remain for it who please. Madame Alvsleben confirmed the highly favourable impression previously made by her. Her performances on this occasion were the bravura air of the Queen of Night (from "Die Zauberflöte") and the cavatina "Und ob die Wolke" (from "Der Freischütz"). Signor Topai was over-weighted with Mozart's aria, "Non piu andrai," and appeared to still less advantage in a contemptible buffo song by Pacini that ought never to have been admitted in the programme of a Crystal Palace concert.

The new series of performances of operas in English at the Crystal Palace began last week. On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Charles Deffel's new opera, "The Corsair," was produced, with great efficiency in the stage arrangements—scenery, dresses, &c. Some of the music of this work had previously been heard at one of the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts; and these portions—a ballet-scene, dance, and chorus—were

among the most effective pieces in the opera; others having been a song for Conrad, "O gentle star," a slumber-song for Gulnare, and two duets for those characters—"With new hope" and "Gentle winds." The cast was as follows:—Gulnare, Miss Blanche Cole; Medora, Miss Fanny Heywood; Conrad, Mr. Nordblom; Anselmo, Mr. Muller; and Seyd, Mr. Aynsley Cooke.

This week's Monday Popular Concert again offered the double attraction of performances by Madame Schumann and Herr Joachim. The lady played as her solo Mendelssohn's variations in E flat (op. 82), and was associated with the great violinist in Beethoven's "Kreutzer" sonata; the last-named artist having led the fine quartet in F minor in which Mendelssohn embodied some of his latest and deepest imaginings, and that bright work by Haydn in G (from op. 64). The playing on all hands was of the finest order. The quartet party included the co-operation of Mr. L. Ries, Herr Straus, and Signor Piatti. Mr. William Castle was the vocalist, and Mr. Zerbini the accompanist.

The programme of the second of Mr. Henry Leslie's new series of concerts, on Thursday evening, included (besides other important pieces) Mendelssohn's sublime setting of the 43rd psalm for an eight-part chorus, and Schubert's 23rd psalm for female voices—the fine singing of which by Mr. Leslie's choir has before been the subject of admiration.

The fourth concert of M. Gounod's new choir consisted, as usual, chiefly of pieces of his own composition or arrangement. At the next concert, on April 5, his "Requiem" is to be repeated, and two vocal solos will be given for the first time.

Next week our record of the Italian Opera season will begin. As previously announced, Mr. Gye's establishment, at Covent Garden, opens on April 1—a fortnight in advance of Mr. Mapleson's, at Drury Lane.

The Barnstaple Easter Festival will be revived this year. The oratorio "Sampson" will be performed, Mr. Cummings and Mr. Lewis Thomas having been engaged. This is the only musical festival held in the West of England.

NEW BOOKS.

AMONG THE NOVELISTS.

A downright, rattling, melodramatic novel, with a spice of the devil and the bushranger in it, is contained in the three volumes entitled *The Death Shot*, by Captain Mayne Reid (Chapman and Hall). The author and his style are well known, and he and it have their numerous admirers, who must be hard indeed to please if this latest of their favourite's stories do not fully come up to their hopes and expectations. From the title to the conclusion there is a constant, straightforward, uncompromising, and successful attempt to keep the reader's attention ever on the alert by an incessant variety of striking and, indeed, startling scenes and situations. There are no maudering lucubrations, no tedious moral reflections, no tiresome philosophical speculations, no inculcation of political or social doctrines, no bits of literary or other criticism; the author has undertaken to tell a thrilling tale, and to that task he sticks with the most devoted singleness of purpose. He is dashing, vigorous, picturesque, and weird; and his manner of writing, which is of the cut-and-thrust order, is admirably adapted for enhancing those qualities. Incident succeeds incident with a rapidity which ought to content the most restless and most exacting; and the passions whereby the chief movers are agitated are such as have ever been dear to the votaries of wild and audacious romance—to wit, love, jealousy, and vengeance. The love of the turtle maddens to crime; it becomes that fierce desire which urges the frantic suitor to abduction and prompts him to compass the death of a hated rival; and filial devotion is mingled with that stern and even savage resolution which makes a son swear over his mother's grave to take a bloody revenge for her broken heart. The story opens with a powerful picture, novel in conception, sombre in colour, awful in the present, and full of ghastly promise for the future. There is a lonely prairie, with grass as short as a convict's hair; and night is at hand. A something above the ground is seen in the distance; and towards that something moves a pack of grey wolves, and over that something hovers a flock of black vultures. What is that something which attracts the hungry wolf and the voracious vulture? By heavens! it is a human head, and the head is alive. The head of a man buried up to his chin. The eyes in the head glance angrily and roll fearfully and flash forth sparks of fire; and the mouth moves its lips, and from time to time sends forth a fearful cry to scare the irresolute assailants. And now the night, which was coming, is on. Oh! horror! What will be the dreadful end? Let an answer be sought for at the 197th page of the third volume.

Quite a new and original catastrophe is employed for the purpose of making away with a gang of ruffians, who have apparently become more than their inventor could conveniently manage, in *Murphy's Master*, by the author of "Lost Sir Masingberd" (Tinsley Brothers). It is to be feared that the innocent, in considerable numbers, perish with the guilty; but there is nothing contrary to general experience in that. To tell in what way the riddance of bad rubbish is effected would be to spoil the author's elaborately constructed climax. It is fair, however, to say that the author, conscious of having made a heavy demand upon his readers' credulity, quotes the authority upon which he relied when he resolved to make use of the singular phenomenon he has chosen for his deliverance from entanglement. Most of his readers will themselves be prepared for the general fact; the details upon which the author has ventured will be what will try the capacity of their swallows. The story, which is flavoured Irish and consequently besprinkled with a few Irish expressions, is dependent for its interest, to a very considerable extent, upon homicide, drunkenness, delirium tremens, and downright insanity; and the title refers to a well but left-handedly born young Irishman and his faithful but drunken and ruffianly henchman. It may be that we have had enough, and more than enough, of the Irish man-servant, whose fidelity is greater than even a dog's; but, whereas he is usually represented as a most lovable creature, with just a few weaknesses, he is in the present case—how much more or less truthfully let others pronounce—described as a villain with scarcely a redeeming point beyond his loyalty to an unworthy master. To the long story—long by comparison is meant—are appended some short sketches in which the author, who is certainly more admirable in his comic and humorously descriptive than in his tragic or melodramatic vein, touches various subjects in a light, pleasant, semi-caustic, facetious manner; there is one, however, which is of a very tragic character, and it is a good one.

Melancholy presides at the opening of the three volumes entitled *Alden of Aldenholme*, by George Smith (Samuel Tinsley). At the twenty-first page of the first volume the ruin which has for a long while been impending over poor Mr. Robert Alden, of Aldenholme, widower, comes down and crushes him—to death. He leaves an only son, Arthur, who forthwith becomes a hero—of a novel. He is handsome, and clever, and hopeful;

and he is steadfastly purposed to recover the home of his fathers. For he is of ancient lineage, and the son of many fathers; though the earlier founders of the family are, for once, admitted not to have "come over with the Conqueror," but to have been, most probably, reduced to subjection by "the proud Norman," or, perhaps, by a humble satellite. The way in which the solitary orphan sets about the attainment of a fortune which shall enable him to recover the ancestral homestead will strike with consternation the majority of experienced persons; he first of all falls in love, and then he embraces literature as his vocation. Any two steps more likely to lead to utter perdition, it is impossible to conceive. Moreover, a very Job might be pardoned for feeling and even expressing impatience of heroes who seek distinction in the literary line. It is always the old story over again of polite or rude but wary publishers, editors, and managers; rejected manuscripts, hard and ill-paid and temporary work, impecuniosity and sickness, and sometimes friendly aid, and sometimes almost equally friendly death. And, if success be attained, a bare statement of the fact is generally all that is vouchsafed; or, if by chance a specimen be exhibited of the work which was rewarded with fame and fortune, it is ten to one that the reader feels disposed to indorse the statement made by the immortal Bumble to the effect that "the public is a ass." How it fared with Arthur Alden must be discovered from the volumes devoted to his history. It would, however, be unpardonable not to pay tribute of admiration to the physical, moral, and mental beauties of the young lady he adored and to the many attractions of her less angelic but more lively fair cousin. The story is told in a plain, straightforward manner, without any noticeable graces of composition, but, at the same time, without pretentiousness; an old, familiar air pervades the plot and incidents; there are sound, sensible observations, truly Christian sentiments, and a healthy tone; and there are many skilfully executed outlines of character. Furthermore, the interest of the story and the author's vigour are on the *crescendo* rather than the *decrescendo* scale, and that is a matter of some importance.

A decidedly uncommon and original novel is to be had for the asking. It is called *Only Eve*, by Mrs. J. Calbraith Lunn (Sampson Low and Co.). Bigamy is not altogether excluded from the pages, and so far, therefore, the story conforms to the prevailing fashion; but in other respects it is almost unique; character, incidents, scenes, and language are all of an unfamiliar kind. Some folk say that there is a plurality of worlds, and so there may be somewhere a world where life resembles that which is depicted in "Only Eve." There is internal evidence, exclusive of the bigamous tendency, to show that the tale is intended to be of modern date; but, on the other hand, it would appear as if the author had determined to disregard harmoniousness and had heaped together in one incongruous mass the peculiarities of bygone periods and of modern existence. At one time we seem to be witnessing flirtations between the shepherds and shepherdesses of primeval Arcadia; at another, to see men and women living as they are represented by Sir Walter Scott to have lived under the mild sway of good King René, when everybody carried about some musical instrument and conversation was nothing more or less than reciprocal snatches of song accompanied by the twang of the guitar or a similar plaything; at another to ride with fear and trembling over Hounslow-heath and once more fall in with Dick Turpin, his pistol, and his famous black mare; at another to feel quite at home amongst scenes of village gossip, with the click-clack of the loom, the sudden stoppage of that busy sound, the cessation of labour, the inevitable starvation, and the consequent wrath and violence of the hungry father of dying children; at another to be witnessing such behaviour on the part of ladies as is unimpeachable on the score of morality, but is sometimes decidedly rude and nearly always unconventional; and at another to be listening to dialogue which would, no doubt, be found to positively bristle with wit and repartee, if only its meaning were more readily ascertained. That the writer displays considerable talent is unquestionable; and the characters of the heroine, of the benevolent and bearlike musician in the hosiery line, and of his stern old mother, are excellent conceptions. The heroine, who is first introduced to the reader in a touching scene in which she is represented as a pretty, delicate, sweet-voiced child, singing, as she stands barefooted and scantily clad, in a pelting storm, beneath the window of a poverty-stricken hosiery with the soul of a Beethoven, and with a mind divided between reasons for and objections against the reception into his own house of that angelic warbler, turns out to be the daughter of a wealthy squire, and a meaner and more contemptible scoundrel than her father was seldom or never portrayed in a novel. The story will be best appreciated by those who can feel "the power of sound," for the author has apparently derived inspiration from the soul of music and the spirit of melody.

A lively audacity, amusing paradox, sheer eccentricity, rollicking verse, and a sharp, short, jerky style, suggestive but not necessarily indicative of trenchant remarks and arguments, may, for lack of well-devised plot or interest inherent in the story, carry the reader along through *Squire Silchester's Whim*, by Mortimer Collins (Henry S. King and Co.). It is a wild, desultory, boisterous outburst, with here and there a dainty morsel borrowed from the old Roman or Grecian poets to relieve the mind oppressed by the incessant flow of animal spirits; and to read it, or any considerable portion of it, right through at one sitting, would probably produce an effect similar to that which follows upon an excessive use of alcoholic stimulants. Such stimulants, however, taken in small and regulated doses, are admitted even by a majority of the faculty to be as beneficial as they certainly are, for the moment, inspiring. The whim alluded to in the title is a very extraordinary one; the squire, in fact, determines that his two children shall not be taught to read or write. So preposterous an idea might at the very outset scare away the sedate and solid-minded reader; but still it might have been worked out in such a manner as to attract and deserve the attention not only of the curious and ingenious but also of the profound and philosophical inquirer. When, however, the whim has, so far as an ordinary observer can see, no particularly noticeable consequences, and involves no or scarcely any event that might not have happened independently, impatience is generated by the obvious neglect of opportunity, expectation is disappointed, and the originally excited appetite is soon satiated. There are, nevertheless, characters well but roughly and hastily sketched; there are pretty and pleasing scenes and situations; and there are charming bits both of prose and verse. Extravagance runs riot, and is particularly noticeable in all that relates to the man who kept a tame panther; but then he was, as the end would lead us to infer, a lunatic, so that extravagance was in his case not only allowable but almost necessary.

Yankees are very freely and somewhat humorously described by one of themselves in *Never Again*, by W. S. Mayo, M.D. (Sampson Low and Co.). So far as there is a romance, with a hero and a heroine, such as readers of novels love, it is soon told, and is as follows:—Luther, whose surname is of no con-

sequence, is a poor but handsome boy, of respectable parentage, and his mother's darling. He sets out on his way to make, as he firmly believes, his fortune at New York. He has proceeded but a short distance, by river, on his adventurous course, when the boat which carries "Caesar and his fortunes" is run down by a steamer. Luther is rescued and taken on board the steamer, where he excites the sympathy and obtains the patronage of Helen (whose surname, again, is of no consequence), who is the lovely daughter of a rich merchant of New York, and who, of course, becomes the cynosure of the fortune-seeking youth. What is their ultimate fate must be learnt from the pages of the novel itself. It is in the episodic portions of the story that the author's chief strength is displayed; and in them he exhibits no mean powers, whether he exerts himself as a mere narrator, or as a caricaturist, or as a social analyst, or as a dramatic delineator, or as an illustrator of various types of persons and their habits, manners, customs, and phraseology. There is rather too much of that poor wit in which Americans are apt to indulge, and which consists in puns or playing upon words; and the engravings with which the two volumes are illustrated are not likely to be considered of a high order.

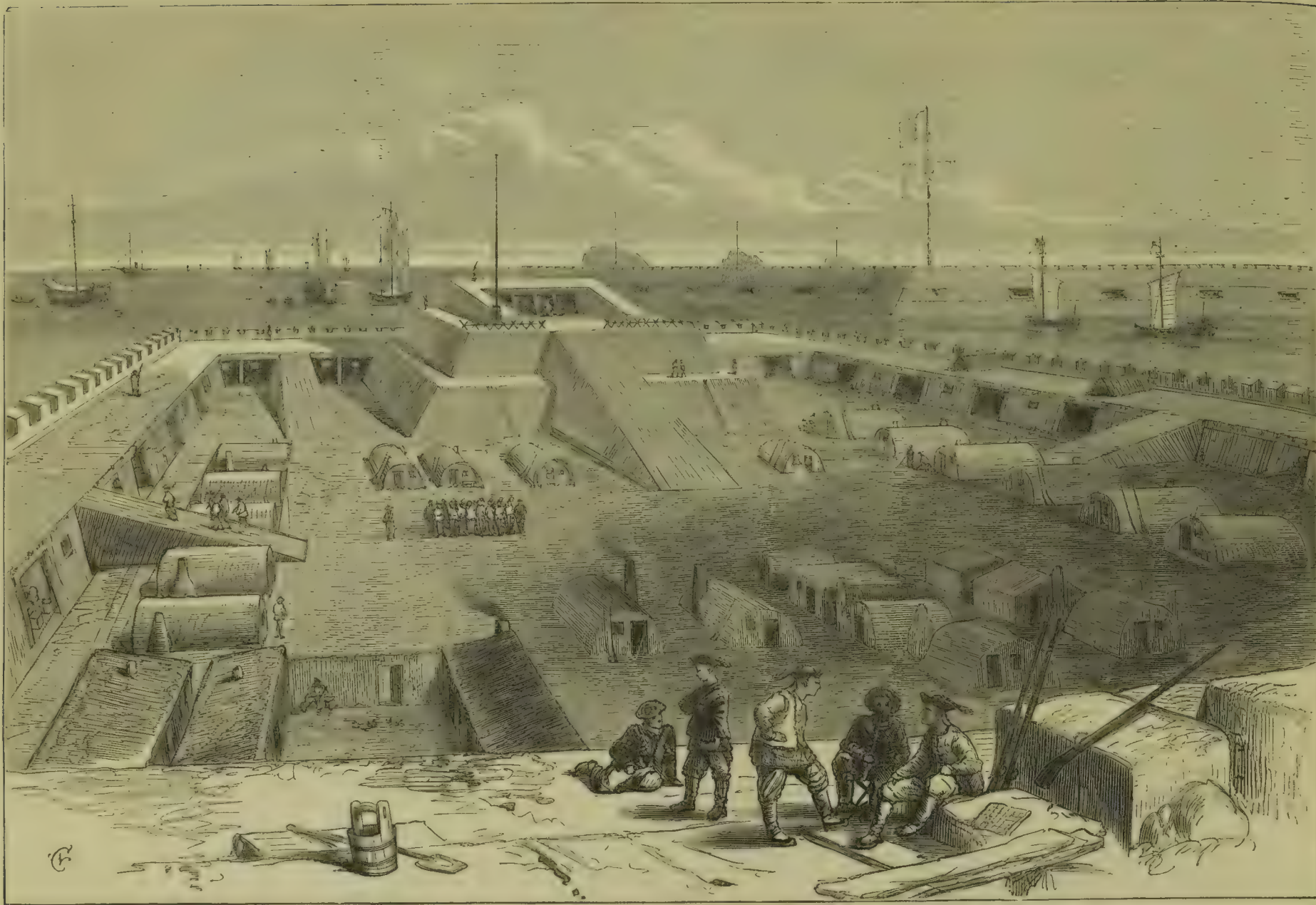
If it were not for occasional pomposity of style, for an inordinate quantity of insufferable slang, for a rather tiresome amount of detail, for a somewhat trying effusion of sentiment and diffusiveness of dialogue, and for a slightly melodramatic tendency, the high praise which is undoubtedly due to *A Woman at the Wheel*, by A. M. Tobyn (Hurst and Blackett), might be elevated to the comparative, if not to the superlative, degree. The novel, in fact, is in many parts eminently well written and eminently readable. These laudatory remarks apply chiefly, however, to the first volume; the other two volumes, though they are not without touching and powerful passages, show symptoms of a flagging spirit and corresponding workmanship, and, towards the close of the third volume, the "winding-up act" is carried out a little tediously, after all the interest has died out, by means, to a considerable extent, of that stale device whereby an explanatory diary is discovered after a certain person's death. The faithful Irish servant, too, carefully, cordially, affectingly, and amusingly as he is described, is a character so familiar as to be almost too common; and the pitiable picture of a young lady seeking for a means of livelihood in London has also been exhibited so often as to have an exasperating rather than any other effect. In the present case, however, the picture is not entirely without novelty, for advantage has been taken of the new ideas touching woman's education. The "woman at the wheel," indeed, enters, without the authority of a regular diploma, upon the exercise of the medical profession, and works cures hardly less remarkable than those which were ascribed not long ago to the mysterious influence of a certain notorious Zouave. Curiously enough, the "woman at the wheel," albeit she is clearly intended as an example such as must silence the objections of tyrannical man, may, on the contrary, confirm the tyrant's worst suspicions; she is glad to have recourse for advice in her treatment of patients to the knowledge and experience of her father, a medical gentleman in a state of imbecility; and when she is engaged in a pleasant gossip, or has any other reason for not answering to a "call," she adopts a notable plan, which may be best explained by herself:—"If I had only been consulted," says she (vol. iii., p. 178), "I should have got over the difficulty by giving a fee, with which the woman could purchase the services of somebody else. I have done it before, and I'm sure I could then." That is your conscientious medical woman, whose heart is in her profession.

A very clever counterfeit—in a complimentary, rather than offensive, use of the term—is supposed to be intentionally presented under the title of *Memoirs of Mrs. Letitia Boothby*; written by herself; edited by Clark Russell (Henry S. King and Co.). In fact, it is presumed that an ingenious gentleman has very successfully imitated the style of an author writing in the latter part of the eighteenth century. Nor is it in superficial style only that success has been attained; in manner, matter, language, and situations, the illusion is skilfully kept up. Moreover, there is a not only readable but really impressive and dramatic story, which, if not remarkable for originality in respect of the chief incidents, at any rate preserves the good old fashion of bringing retribution upon the villain and finding a refuge for the repentant. No doubt there is something repulsive in the idea of a daughter publishing abroad the tale of her own father's infamy; but, as the daughter is represented as desiring her revelations to be kept unpublished until she herself is in her grave, she would naturally have concluded that her father, whose habits were far from healthful, would have long been beyond reach of the severest strictures. Mistress Letitia Boothby—for the title must not be allowed to mislead people into believing that she was a married woman—did not commence life under favourable auspices. Her father, having been thrown, at an early age, upon his own resources, became at first an actor, and was hissed off the stage; and afterwards a dramatic author, whose plays were damned. Her mother, who had been an undistinguished actress, died prematurely, leaving her husband to the consolation of drink and her daughter to the tender mercies of chance. The fair Letitia accordingly becomes companion to a sweet young lady, whose chief, if not only, defect is blindness, so that she is physically incapable of seeing what happens between her "intended" and her companion. The companion, who, by-the-way, figures in a capital scene in which she tries a passage of wits with Dr. Samuel Johnson, does not hesitate, or rather hesitates but little, about exercising her charms upon the "intended;" and there ensues a tragic business, which is very well related.

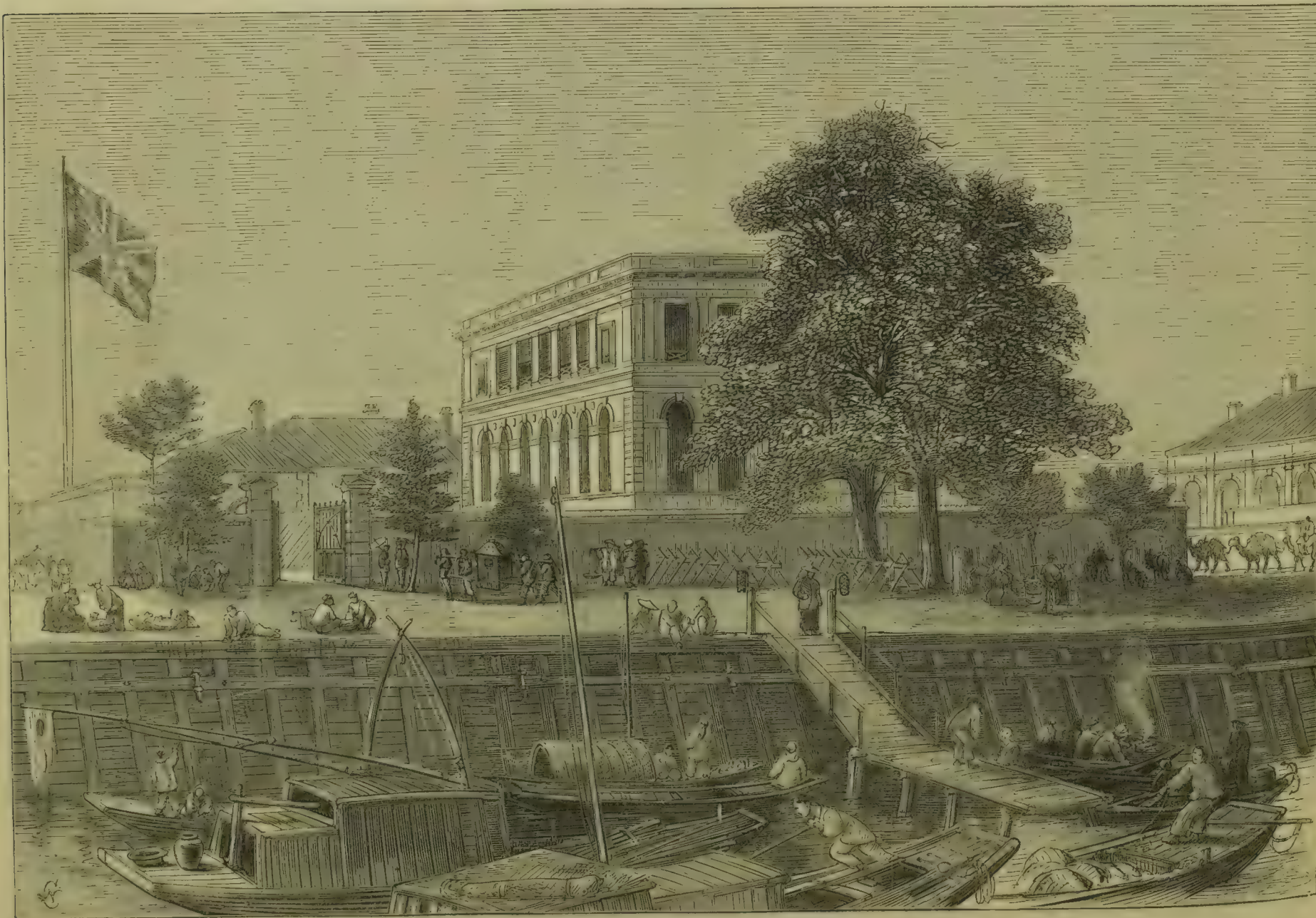
Human life, with a few merely external differences, is much the same everywhere, whether it be passed in an English county, or at the foot of "inhospitable Caucasus," or in Thuringia, which is the country chosen for pitching the scene of the story called *Gold Elsie*, from the German of E. Marlitt; very readably translated by Mrs. A. L. Wister (Strahan and Co.). Passions, too, are limited; but characters, though all have some general point of similarity, are almost infinitely different, by reason of innumerable and almost infinitesimal underlying particles of idiosyncrasy. And it is in the delicate and subtle handling and elucidation of the less patent amongst such peculiarities that German writers of fiction excel. And this national excellence, joined to the equally national gift of a picturesque and semi-poetical style of writing, will render it a profitable as well as an agreeable pursuit, though the main incidents, such as her change of social condition, her persecution by an unworthy lover, her misinterpreted position under compromising circumstances, and her treatment at the hands of a jealous maniac, are not of a heretofore unfamiliar sort, to follow the fortunes of "Gold Elsie," or "Elizabeth with the golden hair."

A successful series of winter meetings at the Lambeth Baths was brought to a close last Saturday evening. Sir J. C. Lawrence, M.P., presided, and a report was read showing how highly these gatherings had been appreciated by the classes whom they were intended to benefit.

S K E T C H E S I N C H I N A.



THE PEIHO FORTS, TIEN-TSIN.



THE BRITISH CONSULATE, FROM THE PEIHO RIVER.



SKETCHES IN CHINA: STOPPING AN INUNDATION OF THE PEIHO.



TOWER FOR DEAD INFANTS.



LAST SCENE FROM "MAN AND WIFE," AT THE PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

SKETCHES IN CHINA.

The city of Tien-Tsin, on the river Peiho, between the sea-coast and Peking, in a low plain, not unfrequently overflowed by that river, at its junction with the grand canal. We give some views of this place; one showing the forts that here command the passage of the Peiho, and one of the building occupied by the British Consulate. Our Special Artist writes as follows on the subjects of two other sketches:—

"The waters of the Peiho have overflowed and flooded the country all round Tien-Tsin. For miles, as far as the eye can see, it is water. Villages, built of mud, have, by the debris of old houses and the erection of new ones upon them, risen above the usual level, and are to be seen as islands. The Treaty Temple (so named from Lord Elgin's treaty having been signed there), near Tien-Tsin, usually reached by a pleasant ride across country, is at this moment an island, and can only be approached by a canoe. A few miles below Tien-Tsin, where the Peiho had broken its bank, and was flowing over the flat ground, I saw a boy at the end of a very narrow strip of mud, which was the river embankment at this place. To prevent the water from wearing away this slight defence, he held, at the end of a pole, a bunch of wood, like a faggot or fascine. On the other side of the water I saw two of the ponderous wooden coffins in which the Chinese bury their deceased ancestors, and the care of which is so all-important in their eyes, when a railway or a telegraph is proposed. In this case they look as if, like the Venerable Bede's coffin on the Tyne, they had come down the Peiho floating to seek a comfortable resting-place. Near them a Chinese fisherman had established himself, thinking that the shallow water of the inundation was a good spot for his occupation. His net was attached to four pieces of bamboo, which he pulled up at times, and passed whatever fish it might contain to a basket floating at his side. Boats were passing about, I supposed for the purpose of communicating from one village to the other. The boy seemed to be singing to himself, to pass the time, one would naturally think, for he would have a long time of it if he held on till the inundation stopped.

"The worship of ancestors and care of tombs and the dead is one of the great features of faith and custom among the Chinese. It would seem that children who die within a certain age are considered not to have lived, or that the soul has not been developed in them; hence the body of such a child does not require any of the forms of sepulchral worship. In some places a tower is built with an opening in the wall, so that poor people can easily get rid of the bodies of their children who die very young. It is hinted that illegitimate and female babies are readily got rid of by means of these towers; but this is doubtful, as there are many foundling hospitals. The baby-tower is simply an octagonal erection, about 10 ft. high, with a hole in two of its sides, where the bundles are easily put in and fall to the bottom. Such towers stand by the road-side, but quite away from houses, so that whatever is done at them may take place unseen. The bodies are wrapped up in matting."

SCENE FROM

"MAN AND WIFE."

The clever play which Mr. Wilkie Collins has evolved from his novel entitled "Man and Wife" maintains its hold on the supporters of the Prince of Wales's Theatre. The thesis which it illustrates, and which has lately caused much controversy, is shown in its results in the subject of our illustration. Athletic training, if pursued too far, affects the health injuriously in after-life. There can, we think, be no doubt of the fact, when put in that shape; but it does not follow that such training in all instances has such an effect. Allowance must be made for strength and peculiarity of constitution, as also for the judicious practice of the early exercise needful to produce the muscular development required. Some investigation into the matter has lately taken place, and those who have "laboured at the oar" in early life have, generally speaking, spoken in favour of the amusement and its consequences. There must, however, be many exceptions. The plot of the play treats of one of these, and also suggests a further moral. An attachment to these physical sports sometimes develops the muscular system at the expense of the mental and moral. Such, we suppose, was the case with Geoffrey Delamayn, whose person and character Mr. Coghlan so accurately delineates. Our illustration also presents other characters, of which we may profitably distinguish that of Sir Patrick Lundie by Mr. Hare, that of Blanche Lundie by Miss Marie Wilton, that of Mr. Speedwell by Mr. Bancroft, that of Mr. May by Mr. F. Collette, that of Arnold Brinkworth by Mr. Herbert, that of Mr. May by Mr. C. Collette, and that of Anne Silvester by Miss Lydia Foote. It is seldom we can bring together so many portraits; but the grouping in the last scene of Mr. Collins's new play enables us on this occasion to present an extensive combination of theatrical celebrities.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S THANKSGIVING.

When the committee was formed for the decoration of Ludgate-hill on the occasion of the public thanksgiving, a twelvemonth ago, for the recovery of the Prince of Wales, money was subscribed in such abundance that the committee, though almost lavish in their artistic efforts to represent the feelings of the citizens, could not spend all that was intrusted to them for the purpose. The day passed and a considerable surplus remained in hand. This sum the committee decided to appropriate to charities under the presidency of their Royal Highnesses, and partly to the production of a handsome offering in the shape of a volume richly illuminated on vellum in the geometric mediaeval style, by Miss Kate Ashley. The text consists of a congratulatory poem, which was printed and distributed over London on Thanksgiving Day by means of a balloon. The casket containing this beautiful work is from the design of Mr. W. Harry Rogers, and executed in carved oak by his brother, Mr. G. A. Rogers, of Maddox-street. The style is Italian. The lid bears the Prince's feathers in high relief, with monograms and motto, and the frieze has the national floral emblems. The ends are supported by boldly-carved representations of the City dragons. The whole production forms a most worthy receptacle of the graceful memorial it contains. His Royal Highness graciously consented to accept the souvenir. General Sir W. Knollys has conveyed the "thanks and admiration" which both the Prince and the Princess expressed on seeing one of the most beautifully illuminated and bound volumes, and one of the most elaborately-carved boxes, which art in this or any other country can produce."

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

THE SAFETY-LAMP—GASMAKING.

Mr. A. Vernon-Harcourt, F.R.S., began his third lecture on the Chemistry of Coal, on Thursday week, by stating that, but for the simultaneous invention of a safety-lamp by two great men, Davy and Stephenson, our coal-mines could not now be worked. Davy's researches on flame, and his experiments to ascertain the length and diameter of tubes required to cool marsh-gas or firedamp sufficiently to prevent its mixture with air from exploding by contact with flame, led to his discovering that a wire-gauze sieve with from 700 to 1000 meshes to the square inch prevents the passage of flame; that gas may be lit above the gauze when not ignited beneath it; and that the flame does not descend. As the old methods of lighting mines were dangerous and inadequate, Davy eventually adapted the wire-gauze as a covering to a lamp, the phenomena of which are that, on approaching marsh-gas, the flame is at first greatly elongated; and next, that when the flame of the lamp is extinguished, the inside of the gauze is covered with a lambent blue flame, due to the combustion of the marsh-gas itself. If the gauze should become red-hot, a hole may be made, and an explosion would then take place. The principle of Stephenson's lamp (termed a "Geordie") is that of supplying only just enough air for combustion; so that when brought into an explosive mixture the flame is extinguished. Mr. Harcourt, after illustrating the principles of these lamps, as well as of that termed the "Clanny," proceeded to consider the manufacture of coal-gas for illuminating purposes, first describing how this gas was discovered rising from a well in Lancashire, and ignited in 1659 (the people believing that the water took fire); and how the Rev. John Clayton not only collected this gas rising from the earth, but actually made it by heating coal about 1740. In 1792 Murdoch lit his house at Redruth, in Cornwall, by this gas; Boulton and Watt used it in their factories in 1798; and the Chartered Gas Company was formed in 1810. The first gas used was very impure; but it was brought to great perfection by successive improvements in the manufacture. The present method of obtaining gas was illustrated by the actual production of it, by working models, and the exhibition of a brilliant flame as the result.

MYTHOLOGY AND TEMPLES OF INDIA.

Captain E. D. Lyon, at the Friday evening meeting on the 21st inst., exhibited an interesting series of photographs of Indian temples magnified and illuminated by the electric lamp. In his introductory remarks he stated that, although the Hindoos worship a countless number of deities, they still recognise



THANKSGIVING ADDRESS CASKET PRESENTED TO THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

the one supreme God, whom they consider too awful to erect a temple to him; and his triune personifications, Brahma (creation), Shiva (preservation), and Vishnu (destruction). He then exhibited a picture of the most popular of the gods, Ganesa, and related the legend accounting for his having an elephant's head. Commencing with Trichinopoly, Captain Lyon showed the celebrated temple of Seringam, and explained that a Hindoo temple (called devila, or "house of god") consists of the *gopurum*, or entrance; the *mundapum*, or porch; the *teppa kolum*, or tank; and the *vimanum*, or sanctuary, an oblong, plain, perfectly dark building, into which no European is allowed to enter, except of Royal blood, and he quite alone. A wonderful mundapum at Madura, the Rome of India, was next exhibited, and its erection by the last King of that city said to have cost a million sterling, and to have occupied twenty-two years. One of the guardians of the gods placed here, fifteen feet high, carved out of a single block of granite, was also shown, followed by fine pictures of the ear of Juggernaut, the extraordinary monolith at Kalogoomulla, and the beautiful temple carved out of it, the Indian Cupid, the sacred temple at Ramisseram, with its magnificent long aisles, all accompanied by explanatory remarks and allusions to the legends connected with them. Captain Lyon then conducted his audience northward, exhibiting representations of the temple of Avadea Covil, Tanjore, and the seven pagodas near Madras, together with the rocks cut, both inside and out, into marvellous bassi reliefs, the authors and purpose of which are quite unknown. Some of these works are attributed to the Buddhists, but the only known relics of these religionists are caves. The succeeding views included Tarpur, with its wonderful carvings; the temple described by Southey in his "Curse of Kehama"; remains of the city of Bali, destroyed by the ravages of the sea; and other ruins, with historical comments. The religion, gods, and temples of the Jains were next introduced; followed by views of the exterior and interior of the Taj-Mahal, the gorgeous mausoleum erected by Shah Jehan; concluding with the portrait of a fakir, asserted to have been instrumental in bringing on the mutiny of the sepoys in 1857, and who, being of high caste, although a mere beggar, was met with by Captain Lyon at the house of one of the richest merchants in Allahabad. Mr. William Spottiswoode, the treasurer, was in the chair.

MATERIALISM AND TRANSCENDENTALISM.

Professor F. Max Müller, of Oxford, gave the first of a course of three lectures on Mr. Darwin's Philosophy of Language, on Saturday last. He began by stating that philosophy is, under various disguises, the daily bread of the whole world; that in all classes of society are to be found disciples of every school; and that the intellectual health of a nation depends no more on the established religion than on the dominant philosophy. The present prevailing desire, in various degrees, is to explain the universe without the admission of any plan, any object, any superintendence; to remove all barriers which separate organic from inorganic bodies; and to define life as a mode of chemical action, and thought as a movement of nervous molecules. Although Mr. Darwin asserts

that all animals and plants may have descended from about eight or ten progenitors, yet he holds that, even if they descended from one primordial form, life was first breathed into it by the Creator; but his most strenuous advocate in Germany, Hæckel, declares that the idea of a Creator, Maker, or Life-Giver has become unscientific, and that the first self-generated primordial form is sufficient. This stream of philosophic thought the Professor termed evolutionary materialism. After allowing for the beneficial effects of antagonism in philosophy as in politics, and commenting on the opposing systems of materialism and spiritualism, realism and idealism, and expressing his conviction of the importance of our decision, even in regard to our present happiness, he said that in his present course he did not propose to grapple with the whole problem, but to point out an omission in the modern study of the human intellect—that of language, which is most important, since without language no thought can exist or ever be realised or expressed, whatever view be taken of its origin or material apparatus. Not till we understand the real nature of language, said he, shall we understand the real nature of the human self. In reference to the problem relating to man's position in the system of the animal world, the Professor said it was necessary to go back to the discussions of the last century, now too much neglected; and, after alluding to the idealism of Berkeley and the materialism of Hume, he entered upon an exposition of the "transcendental" philosophy of Kant, who propounded a system which was a reconciliation, not a compromise, between the two—a position which may be attacked, but ought not to be ignored. His "Criticism of Pure Reason," said the Professor, "will stand as firm as the rocks of Niagara." He was successful because the tide of materialism was turned; he spoke the word which the world was waiting for. Professor Müller then explained the way in which Kant dealt with the problem, showing that he was more successful against Locke and Hume than against Berkeley; and exhibiting his mode of dealing with the *tabula rasa* theory, which supposes that the human mind at first resembles a wax tablet smoothed and made ready to receive impressions, which he termed verbal jugglery. Kant, he said, broke through the phalanx of the sensualistic school, and, according to him, there are two fundamental or inevitable conditions of all sensuous manifestations, space and time, termed pure intuitions. There can be no *there* without a *here*, and no *then* without a *now*; both depend on us, as recipients, as measurers, and as perceivers. He also propounded the so-called "categories of the intellect," without which no experience, not even the lowest, can be possible, and therefore they cannot be acquired by experience—viz., 1, unity, plurality, universality; 2, affirmation, negation, limitation; 3, substantiality, causality, reciprocity; 4, possibility, reality, necessity. The analysis of these proves that we cannot perceive any object except by the aid of the intellect. After considering and illustrating these categories, termed "the Magna Charta of Philosophy," Professor Müller attributed the reaction against Kant to misapprehension, and pointed out where his opponents differed among themselves and where some agreed with him; and he especially animadverted on the new school in England and Germany, which sets aside causality as an illusion, calls in the aid of physiology to prove that mind is but the transient outcome of matter and that the brain secretes thought as the liver secretes bile, and says, "No phosphorus, no thought!" In concluding, the Professor expressed his strong conviction, that to avoid misunderstandings philosophy ought to become more international, as it was in the last century.

DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL TISSUES.

Professor Rutherford, in his eleventh lecture on the Forces and Motions of the Body, given on Tuesday last, considered the origin and structure of the tissues of animals. He described the egg, and the manner in which the various tissues, such as the epithelium, cartilage, bone, muscle, and nerve, result from the egg protoplasm. The various tissues were stated to consist either, 1, of naked protoplasm; or, 2, of protoplasm surrounded by periplasmic matter variously modified, so as to form the contractile part of muscle, the passive portion of bone, cartilage, connective tissue, epithelium, &c.; or, 3, of periplasmic matter, from which the protoplasm has disappeared, as in the enamel of the teeth. The Professor said that it is certain that the most complex of living forms are, in the ordinary everyday process of development, being continually evolved out of simple particles of protoplasm, but that the evolution in the progress of geological time of the complex out of the simple living forms, is a hypothesis as yet destitute of substantial proof. He then commented on the functions of the protoplasm and of the periplasmic material of the tissues, and the effect of excitants upon them. Protoplasm is active; while periplasm may be active, as in muscle, or passive, as in cartilage and bone. The effect of an excitant upon protoplasm may be contraction, or more rapid growth, if the action be continued. In respect to periplasmic matter, the excitant may cause contraction, as in the case of muscle, or may set up invisible motion, as in nerve fibres; but in the case of bone, cartilage, and such tissues, the excitant produces no effect. The protoplasm alone appears to be the germinal or proliferative part. Professor Rutherford limits the term "protoplasm" to what has been termed by Beale "germinal matter" or "bioplasm," and applies the term "periplasmic matter" to the substance named "periplast" by Huxley and "formed material" by Beale.

Professor Tyndall, at the next Friday evening meeting, April 4, will give the result of some observations on Niagara, made during his recent visit to the United States.

Two deaths by hydrophobia have been certified by medical evidence and the verdict of a coroner's jury at Manchester.

The Birmingham Town Council on Monday resolved, by a majority of thirty-two to sixteen, to reject the precept of the school board for £13,500, and will, it is stated, resist the action of the board, should that body apply for a mandamus.

The valuable estate of Hannahfield, near Dumfries, which, in consequence of the failure of heirs, lately fell to the Crown, has been handed over by the Lords of the Treasury to the magistrates and sheriffs of Dumfries, under certain deductions, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Dumfries and Galloway.

The *Dundee Advertiser* says that all the tenants of Lord Kinnaird on the clay farms are to receive a reduction of one fourth of their rent now due, in consequence of the losses sustained by them owing to last year's bad harvest and the failure of other crops.

ADELPHI.

FRENCH PLAYS.

Revivals appear to be the order of the day. Mr. and Mrs. Bandmann have appeared at the Princess's in "Narcisse." Mrs. Bandmann, as Doris, and Madame Huddart, as Madame Pompadour, were well received. The Duke de Choiseul was efficiently played by Mr. Howard Russell. At the Standard the drama of "Rebecca," as arranged by Mr. Halliday, has been reproduced, with the Drury Lane scenery. Mr. Mead, as Isaac of York, and Mrs. Billington, as Rebecca, sustain the characters with a degree of power which secures the approbation of the audience. Business continues good. At the Holborn a change of performance took place on Monday, when Mr. Tom Taylor's drama of "The Ticket-of-Leave Man" was revived, Mr. Atkins being engaged for his original part.

Our account of the Isle of Karrack, in the Persian Gulf, accompanying the View of that island we gave last week, was made up chiefly of the statements in Lieutenant C. R. Low's recent letter to the *Times*, but the view was from a sketch by Mr. H. W. Estridge.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Manfred and Man Friday—Stanley—Charles—W. Furnival—D. P. E.—A. Lyddon—W. Groux—W. Crawley—Euclid—A. Wood—H. Plunkett—N. Rubua—Racefield—T. W. Morris—H. M. M. M.—Gulden—Morden—A. D. Gilbert—Bossgrubman.

BLACK.



CHESSE IN CANADA.

1. The two parties shall agree beforehand as to the persons who are to take part in the contest, as to the time and mode of transmitting the moves, the penalties to be inflicted for any breach of contract, and as to the umpire or referee, if any.

revision, and are to be confirmed at the annual meeting, to be held in Toronto, in May, 1873.

WILLS AND REQUESTS

The will and codicil of the Hon. George James Welbore Agar-Ellis, formerly of the British Legation, Athens, but late of Dover House, Whitehall, were proved, on the 11th inst., under £25,000, by the Marquis of Hartington and the Hon. Leopold George Frederick Agar-Ellis (brother), the executors.

NEW MUSIC.

GOUNOD'S CELEBRATED SONGS.

The Better Land. Poetry by Mrs. Hemans. 4s.
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 Oh! that we two were maying. 4s.
 The sea hath its Pearls. 4s.
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Beautiful Dreams, in E flat and F. 4s.
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 Emeralds, in D, E, and F. 4s.
 The King and the Beggar Maid. 3s.
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